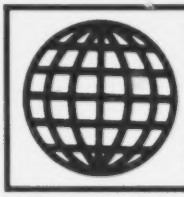

Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-89-204
Tuesday
24 October 1989

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-89-204 *24 October 1989*

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Cuba

Shevardnadze Remarks on U.S. Embargo Noted

FL2310221589 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2032 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said today that the U.S. blockade and embargo on Cuba does not fit into the context of the current international state of affairs. Speaking before the parliament on general lines of foreign policy, the Soviet foreign minister asserted that the U.S. position is not in line with the current international atmosphere. The United States should think again since Cuba has received support from the international community which elected it as member of the UN Security Council, said Shevardnadze.

For his part, official spokesperson [name indistinct] said in a news conference that the U.S. accusations on Nicaragua's alleged supply of weapons to Salvadoran guerrillas are blocking the peace process in Central America.

130 Internationalists Arrive From Angola

FL2310130089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Over 130 compatriots arrived last night in the fatherland after having fulfilled their internationalist mission in the People's Republic of Angola. Yolanda Gomez Ferrer, alternate member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Politburo, headed the official welcoming delegation at the airport. [passage omitted]

Civil Aviation To Add 4 Yak-42's to Fleet

FL2310170789 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1502 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] Starting next year, the Cuban civil aviation will add more modern and efficient equipment to its fleet which will guarantee, to a large extent, a response to the growing international traffic as well as the improvement of service to the nation.

In 1990, four Yak-42's will be added to the fleet. Each plane has a 120-person capacity and will substitute the Il-18's which will be transferred to the fleet of Aero-Caribbean, an enterprise that specializes in tourism charter flights. The engines of the Yak-42's are of a new technological generation which permits much more efficiency. In other words, they consume less fuel than their predecessors, the Yak-40's. Two of Yak-42's will be used for national and international flights in the Caribbean area.

The Cuban aviation fleet will also add an Il-62M, and by the end of the 5- year period, 5 IL-96 300's will be have been added.

Officials Tour Havana on Defense Sunday

FL2310185989 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro and Jorge Lezcano, first secretary of the party in Havana City Province, as well as other party leaders of the capital, and officers of the Revolutionary Armed Forces have carried out a tour of various defense zones. The tour began with a simulated ambush on Salvador Allende Avenue in the Municipality of Centro Habana as well as a tour of firing ranges in Old Havana, East Havana, and Alamar. The visit ended with the main ceremony at the Saul Delgado Preuniversity Center in Revolution Square Municipality.

During his closing remarks at the ceremony, Lezcano emphasized the work carried out by over 400,000 Havana Province residents who participated in the various military exercises for the defense Sunday throughout the province. Explaining why Revolution Square Municipality had been chosen as the center of these military exercises, he said:

[Begin Lezcano recording] The first reason is that this is one of the most outstanding municipalities in defense-related tasks. The second reason is the interest we have shown in participating in the activities that were going to be carried out here. Our students, particulary our youths, and in general the municipality expressed their interest. Thus, this is a symbol of what our youth is capable of doing to guarantee the continuity of the revolution, the future of our fatherland, and the future of socialism. [end recording]

Justice Minister on Crime Prevention Congress

FL2410024589 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Interview with Justice Minister Juan Escalona by unidentified reporter; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] What are the main areas that are going to be dealt with during the eighth UN congress on crime prevention and treatment of criminals?

[Escalona] The participants of the eighth congress will discuss the most current subjects of international problems regarding crime prevention and the treatment of criminals. Cuba is going to host this event. The directors of the UN Crime Prevention Office visited us today. We had an exchange of views on the steps we are taking for the preparation of the event. The event's fundamental subject is going to deal with the problems the world is facing in the fight against drug trafficking, terrorism, ecology crimes—for which America is paying a high price. This event is also very important because it will mark the strategy to follow by the United Nations, that is, through its resolutions, in crime prevention activities and treatment of criminals during a 5 year period.

Haiti

Minister Accuses Press at Debate on Banditry

FL2310150789 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 20 Oct 89

[Excerpts] A conference-debate on banditry, presided over by Interior and National Defense Minister Acedius St. Louis, was held at around noon 19 October in the conference room of the Ministry of Interior and National Defense. A representative of the Haitian Red Cross, the Haitian Medical Association, Corvington Security [a private security company], a representative from a drivers union, and Justice Department representatives all gathered at the invitation of the ministry to discuss with different sectors of the Haitian Armed Forces the insecurity and banditry affecting Haiti with a vengeance. [passage omitted]

Throughout the debates, Minister St. Louis very subtly accused the press, giving the understanding that the press had a certain degree of responsibility for the evolution of this phenomenon in Haiti. This is because of the way the press received information on insecurity and banditry as well as the way it disseminated this information. [passage omitted]

At the end of the conference, the minister suggested that people of means who live in wealthy neighborhoods buy the Army a pickup truck, which the Army would then put at the service of the police, so that the police could better protect these areas. In this way, the police could use its limited means to provide help to poor areas, inhabited by poor people, the general said. He said that if this were to be done, they could immediately begin to counter this insecurity. [passage omitted]

We remind listeners that at this news conference, members of the press were practically forced to give their opinion on insecurity and banditry. Most of their opinions pointed out that the greatest number of cases of maliciousness to which the population falls victim almost daily could be attributed to what (?they) termed political insecurity.

St Kitts and Nevis

$3 Million Estimated Damage From Hurricane

FL2310132589 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] The Saint Kitts-Nevis Chamber of Commerce has estimated damage to industry on those islands from Hurricane Hugo at $3 million. Tourism sustained $1.1 million damage, and manufacturing suffered $926,000 worth. Damage in the trading sector is still being assessed.

Costa Rica

Minister Denies Panama's Charge on Summit

PA2310200989 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1914 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 23 Oct (DPA)—"It is not Costa Rica nor its government which has excluded Panama from the 27-28 October summit, but rather the Panamanian militarymen who have excluded their country," Costa Rican Information Minister Jorge Urbina has declared.

Urbina responded to the charge made on 22 October by Panamanian militarymen against the Costa Rican Government and President Oscar Arias for not inviting Panama to the summit.

Urbina stated that "Panama's case is well known in the world; its current government is not the product of elections."

Urbina said that "in addition to Panama, Cuba, Haiti, and Chile have also been excluded."

The minister reiterated that "the Panamanian militarymen are to blame for Panama's exclusion."

Arias Declines Comment

PA2310233789 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2122 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 23 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Costa Rican President Oscar Arias has refused to respond to attacks on him by the Panamanian military in a station commentary broadcast during a television program of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] on 22 October.

Arias, who today opened the Fifth National Juridical Congress in San Jose, said that "the truth is that good and bad things have been said about me for the last 3 and ½ years, and I am going to spend many more years hearing such things."

The Panamanian military accused Arias of being "a puppet of Yankee imperialism" for having excluded the Panamanian Government from the "summit" scheduled to be held in the Costa Rican capital the weekend of 27-28 October.

The military called Arias a "figurehead" of the U.S. Government and said that he is doing this for "utilitarian reasons."

In view of the newsmen's insistence, Arias said during an impromptu news conference that he prefers "not to be reacting to everything that somebody decides to say about me," because "I have no time for that." When questioned about the Panamanian attacks, Costa Rican Information Minister Jorge Urbina answered that "Costa Rica loves the people of Panama, Cuba, Haiti, and Chile"—which have not been invited to the summit—but that their leaders cannot be invited to the "feast of Costa Rican democracy" because they were not popularly elected.

Arias remarked during the Juridical Congress that "what is most beautiful for us is to be able to celebrate our 100 years of democracy with the other brotherly people on the continent and with the heads of state who were freely elected at the polls."

"I pray to God that the people whose leaders have not been freely elected will be able soon to emulate the Costa Rican experience, because it is worth emulating."

El Salvador

Cristiani Says FMLN Not Committed to Dialogue

PA2410043789 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 1900 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] Yesterday, Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani said that the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] lacks the commitment to continue the dialogue. He finds no logic with what the FMLN rebels say and do.

[Begin Cristiani recording] There are obstacles because the FMLN does not make things easier. However, I think the important thing is the continuity of the process and the opportunity it affords. [end recording]

President Cristiani said that, on the whole, the San Jose dialogue made substantive progress in terms of continuity, although it should be very clear that a 10-year-old struggle will not end in two meetings. However, he said the government wishes to achieve this goal as soon as possible.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] The FMLN said the government delegation you sent to Costa Rica lacked sufficient decisionmaking power. Justice Minister Oscar Alfredo Santamaria said it did. However, this is where a new impasse arises, according to remarks by FMLN commander Joaquin Villalobos.
[Cristiani] I think Villalobos can say what he likes, but facts are facts. Our commission is fully empowered to hold talks and reach agreements. Obviously, we plan and discuss the issues that are on the agenda ahead of time. That is why the FMLN must stop making things more difficult by coming up with new issues, considering that we previously agreed on a specific issue.

[Reporter] Despite efforts made in Costa Rica, we are living in an atmosphere of violence, with attacks on the homes of leftist political leaders, the murder of Colonel Casanova's daughter, and a number of other incidents that have occurred this week. This situation makes people stop and wonder: How can they be talking of peace in Costa Rica while we are acutely experiencing a war?

[Cristiani] That is our stance. It does not appear logical to us that the FMLN refuses to agree to cease hostilities when we are already talking of peace. It is as illogical as their continued introduction of weapons into the country, as the recent discovery of a truck with weapons in Honduras showed. This seems totally illogical to us and proves that so far the FMLN is not really committed to advancing quickly. The FMLN is placing obstacles to finding a viable solution as quickly as possible. [end recording]

Cristiani said that despite an FMLN statement saying there will be a change in the government delegation for the upcoming meeting in Caracas, Venezuela, the government will send the same delegation and will discuss the same topic: the cessation of hostilities.

Full Text of Government Peace Proposal

PA1710225289 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 17 Oct 89 pp 53, 55

["Government Proposal To Achieve Peace, Consolidate Democracy in the Country, and Reunite Salvadoran Society;" presented on 17 October in San Jose, Costa Rica]

[Text] The government of the Republic, as the legitimate representative of the Salvadoran people, reiterates its absolute commitment to peace and democracy, as expressed by the president in his inaugural speech and in his address to the 44th UN General Assembly, when he said that the search for and reestablishment of peace, which is the most profound and sincere aspiration of all Salvadorans, should be achieved through the mechanisms of understanding and comprehension.

In view of this, within the framework established by the Constitution of the Republic and the historical agreements beginning with Esquipulas II, and particularly the Tela agreements, which rejects the use of violence as an avenue to achieving power, and the "Mexico Agreement," which recognizes dialogue as an irreversible process in restoring harmony within the Salvadoran family in the shortest possible time, the government of the Republic presents the following overall proposition of specific measures to achieve a firm and lasting peace in El Salvador.

I. An immediate halt to hostilities

Which implies:

A. On the part of the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] and all its support organizations, a general halt to all acts of aggression or hostile acts that affect national life in the political, economic, social, and military areas, through psychological, armed, or conspirational techniques directed against all civilian and military targets, and especially all actions and acts of hostility that affect the civilian population, such as the use of mines or other explosive devices, acts of sabotage against the electrical system, telephone networks, water supply system, and transportation, attacks on work centers and means of production, and all other actions that constitute acts of violence against public order, the physical safety of individuals, and the destruction of government or private property. Such a halt would allow the people to carry out their activities normally and safely.

B. A commitment on the part of the government, beginning on the same day, 18 October, to end all offensive military operations, which does not preclude compliance with its constitutional obligations.

C. Guarantees on the part of the government to respect the lives, freedom, and other rights of the FMLN members, to provide medical assistance and food to those who need it, and to take the necessary measures for them to become incorporated into the country's peaceful and democratic life.

D. Agreements for the country's legally established political, labor, and social organizations to carry out their appropriate activities peacefully within a legal framework.

E. Agreements on measures that contribute to the strengthening of respect for human rights and democratic freedoms.

F. As a consequence of the cease-fire agreement, a special government-FMLN operational commission would be created for the practical implementation of the foregoing agreements, and particularly:

1. To ensure that the civilian population will be able to carry out all its activities normally and safely.

2. Safeguard the lives, and the physical and moral safety of the FMLN members, as well as providing them with medical assistance and food.

3. Establish the necessary mechanisms for permanent communications with the FMLN.

G. The International Support and Verification Commission, CIAV, created by the Tela agreements, will be immediately invited to supervise and verify compliance with the foregoing agreements.

II. Incorporation of the FMLN into Civilian Life and the Political Process

Agreement on a plan for the incorporation of the FMLN into peaceful, democratic life, within the framework of the Constitution of the Republic and the Tela agreements, including:

A. Demobilization of the FMLN, in accordance with Chapters I and III of the Tela agreements, no later than 15 January 1990.

B. Measures to pave the way for the FMLN to become a political party on equal terms with other parties.

C. Proposal by the government of an interparty review of the electoral system to strengthen the democratic process.

D. Implementation of legal measures to enhance the administration of justice in the country.

III. Measures to Achieve Political and Social Harmony in El Salvador

A. Promote an interparty mechanism to encourage economic and social development on the basis of a minimal agreement that will make it possible, with everyone's participation and within the least possible time, to overcome the effects of the crisis.

B. Once peace is achieved, the government will determine the Armed Forces troop strength in line with the Constitution of the Republic.

IV. Appeal to the International Community

The government of the Republic calls on the peoples and governments of the world to firmly support the achievement of peace and the country's overall recovery.

V. Worldwide Guarantee

Agreement to immediately request that His Holiness John Paul II, the UN secretary general, and the OAS secretary general honor the country by becoming guarantors, in whatever manner they deem appropriate, of all the foregoing commitments, as well as of the implementation of all agreements emanating from the process of definitive peace and reconciliation of Salvadoran society.

Officer Refutes Accusations by Human Rights Group

PA2310151289 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Text] Colonel Francisco Elena Fuentes, commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade, today refuted the charges raised by the nongovernmental Human Rights Commission that his brigade has death squads and clandestine jails.

The charge, which was raised on 13 October by the nongovernmental Human Rights Commission, links the 1st Infantry Brigade with the death squads. The commission presented the testimony of Cesar Vielman Joya Martinez, a former soldier in the 1st Infantry Brigade, who described in a video report filmed in Mexico how the clandestine structures in that military garrison operate. According to Joya, these clandestine structures are directed by high-ranking officers who kidnap, murder and cause the disappearance of labor union members. After denying all charges against him and his garrison, Col Elena said that Joya indeed served in the 1st Infantry Brigade; that he deserted when he was placed under investigation for overriding his authority; and that it was proved later that on 5 July, at Tres Ceibas Canton, in Apopa, he murdered a peasant and tortured another one who died later at Rosales Hospital.

[Begin Elena recording] This man is a murderer, deserter, and thief. Immediately after we learned about the abuses of authority he committed at the 1st Brigade, we placed him under investigation. He fled from the garrison when he realized that the High Command had ordered the investigation.

I wish to state that there is no group of death squads as was stated in a certain newscast because we are professionals and do not have these kinds of forces, which we might call obscure. We act according to law. This is what I can tell you.

I also wish to state that I have here in my hands a record that was built since the 1st day this individual committed the abuses of authority. He was taken to an operation in the Nejapa area where he captured eight people and murdered one. He then took them to the 1st Brigade and one of them was severly beaten. [end recording]

The National Guard is in charge of investigating these murders and the case is at the 1st Peace Court, according to Col Elena. The deserter was recruited during February 1989, committed the murders on 5 July, and deserted from the 1st Brigade in August. Based on the video report, he may be living in Mexico, from which—it was hinted—the former soldier's extradition may be requested.

Finally, Col Elena denied that any clandestine jails have ever existed in his military garrison. He also denied that a FENASTRAS [Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation] woman leader by the last name of (Chan Chang) is being held prisoner there.

Army Deserter's Charges Noted

PA2310141789 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Note: "Cristiani and the Video Report"]

[Text] Because of its importance, we refer once more to the testimony by former death squad member Cesar Vielman Joya Martinez.

The nongovernmental Human Rights Commission showed the local and international press the video recording showing the deserter making his statements, which had been previously published by the Mexican newspaper LA JORNADA. Answering questions from the press, the nongovernmental Human Rights Commission explained why former agent Alex deserted the death squads. He deserted because the Nejapa operation failed and, because of this, he was in danger of being tried.

The operation failed because it became known that two peasants who had been taken prisoner died from being tortured by members of the 1st Infantry Brigade. The High Command found itself compelled to investigate the death of the peasants, and the military men who directed the operation had no option but to murder the officer who was in command—Cesar Vielman Joya Martinez—who then fled the country.

We can all recall the gruesome report in July—on 25 July, to be precise—that the 1st Brigade had captured seven peasants in the vicinity of Apopa, and that two of them had died from the torture and beatings they suffered. This was the Nejapa operation which was carried out by the Atlacatl Battalion and members of Section 2 of the 1st Brigade, in which Joya Martinez participated. We recall also that the deserter said in his testimony that President Cristiani personally ordered Operation Atlacatl II, which was carried out 2 days after the president's latest visit to the general headquarters of the death squads, located behind the Military School. There is no question that this was the same operation.

The deserter's testimony makes it clearer than ever that a death squad member is the president of our nation, and that he orders the capture, torture, and massacres of peasants. President Cristiani is not a moderate administrator. He is like murderer Roberto d'Aubuisson —a death squad member.

Guatemala

Communists Report on Contras, U.S. Intervention

PA2310185889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2012 GMT 20 Oct 89

[Text] Guatemala City, 20 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—The Guatemalan Labor Party (PGT - Communist) today criticized the presence of Nicaraguan contras in Guatemala and the "increasing U.S. intervention."

On the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the revolution in Guatemala, the PGT, which has been clandestine for the past 35 years, leveled its charges in a paid advertisement in the press today. "With the government's consent, Guatemala is suffering from the growing presence of the Nicaraguan contras, who participate in drug trafficking, terrorism, and common crimes," the PGT said. The Communists, however, did not mention any details or the number of alleged contras in Guatemala, nor of their connections with drug trafficking, terrorism, and common crime.

The PGT stressed that the political forces organized after the 20 October 1944 revolution were unable to consolidate that victory and that this experience led to the overthrow of the Jacobo Arbenz government, through "the intervention of the United States and the Army's betrayal."

It said that for the Nicaraguan people, the peace that is in sight means that the "consolidation of the revolution is necessary." However, it added, "imperialism will try to sabotage the revolution through various means."

The Communists said that the proposals of El Salvador's Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) are a "fair and encouraging means to end the war."

In that context, the Guatemalan Communists said it is "outrageous that in Guatemala the Army and the government refuse to hold a dialogue with the guerrillas and insist on reaching a military solution."

Honduras

Military Spokesman Denies Officers' Arrest

PA2310200589 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Oct 89

[Telephone interview with Colonel Manuel Enrique, Armed Forces public relations director by Juan Bautista Suarez—live or recorded]

[Text] [Vasquez] Colonel Suarez, we are calling you because rumor has it that there are problems within the Armed Forces; several colonels reportedly opposed a slate chosen by the Armed Forces Superior Council during a 16 October meeting. Would you comment on this?
[Suarez] I heard some remarks regarding this and wish to take advantage of this opportunity to deny them; they are absolutely false. There are no officers or other Armed Forces members under arrest or being persecuted because of the decision made by the Armed Forces Superior Council on 16 October.

This is speculation; actually, they are actually disinformation [words indistinct]. I repeat, no officer was arrested or is in trouble because of the decision made by the council on the evening of 16 October.

[Vasquez] Does this mean that the Armed Forces remains united, and there is no generational struggle as some have tried to make the people believe?
[Suarez] Groups seeking to provoke and destroy the Honduran people are trying—as you said—to make them believe that this is so. They are trying to sow distrust in the Armed Forces [words indistinct] groups that are continuously involved in similar activities, especially leftist ones who dream of seeing a divided, unprofessional, and amoral institution that would afford them total freedom to carry out their evil goals and gain grounds in political circles.

Airline Reports 12 U.S. Citizens Killed in Crash

PA2310225289 Paris AFP in Spanish 2130 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 23 Oct (AFP)—SAHSA airline executives reported today that 12 U.S. citizens were killed in the crash of the SAHSA plane on the morning of 21 October near Ula hill, 30 km south of Tegucigalpa.

Of the 15 survivors, 3 are U.S. citizens; in serious condition is Eugene Van Dyck, an official of the U.S. Embassy in Tegucigalpa, who was treated at a private health center in Tegucigalpa and immediately taken to the military hospital at Palmerola Air Base, in central Honduras, before being flown to Miami that same day.

The other survivors are Kurt Schreffer, who is still hospitalized but is out of danger at the Policlinica private clinic; and Lea Deborah Browning, who was treated at the Training Hospital and later taken to the United States aboard a special medivac plane.

In San Jose, where the ill-fated plane began its flight, U.S. citizens Conny Montealegre, Daniel Yonister, Tony Frederick, Lea Deborah Browning (survivor), and M. Absedans boarded the plane for Houston (Texas).

The U.S. citizens who boarded the plane in Managua, the stop prior to the one in Tegucigalpa, were Robert Hebb, Eugene Van Dyck (survivor), Jeaneth Irizarry, Terence Oshea, Charles Morrow, Karla Weaver, Gregory Pagla, Kurt Schreffer (survivor), Maria Apodaca, and Eduardo Apodaca.

Communique on Repatriation of Salvadoran Refugees

PA2310213389 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 18 Oct 89 p 3

[Communique issued by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Office for Central America on 17 October]

[Text] In compliance with its mandate of seeking lasting solutions to the problems of refugees, the UNHCR [UN High Commissioner for Refugees] considers that facilitating voluntary repatriation is part of its programs.

In order to satisfactorily fulfill its mission, and taking into consideration the requests by some 1,200 Salvadoran refugees in the Mesa Grande Refugee Camp in Honduras who want to be repatriated to their country of origin, the UNHCR deems it advisable to reconfirm that it will assume this responsibility of repatriation under the following conditions:

1. The governments of the country granting the asylum and the country of origin agree on their obligations and responsibilities according to the principles and norms of refugee rights and in line with the UNHCR mandate.

2. The UNHCR will watch so that the repatriation process is carried out in the shortest time possible, but it cannot begin moving people before the required agreements have been established.

3. In view of the fact some basic procedures for voluntary repatriation of this group have not yet been established, the UNHCR states it will not join any movement organized without the prior agreement of the Salvadoran Government.

4. The UNHCR states it has worked continuously with all the interested parties to establish basic agreements and it has made significant progress in meetings with the Tripartite Commission, as well as through the visits with high-ranking officials of the Salvadoran Government to the refugee camps in Honduras.

5. The UNHCR also wishes to state that it continues to make concerted efforts, and it points out that once all procedures have been met it will make all possible efforts to organize the necessary logistics in the shortest time possible.

Under these circumstances, the UNHCR reiterates its call so that the agreements and necessary procedures have been met. The repatriation requested by this group of Salvadoran refugees must be carried out with the best conditions of security and respect, according to the principles and norms of the rights of refugees and according to the mandate of the UNHCR.

San Jose, Costa Rica on 17 October 1989.

Nicaragua

NED Officials Meet With Opposition Leaders

PA2310200789 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 20 Oct 89 pp 1, 5

[Report by Roberto Larios]

[Text] Four high-ranking officials of the NED [National Endowment for Democracy] have been meeting this week in Managua with the leaders of the rightist UNO [National Opposition Union] to discuss how the $9 million approved by the Yankee Congress to finance the electoral campaign of the pro-U.S. alliance will be distributed.

They are: Adelina Reyes Gavilan, who has an extensive background in the financing of the rightwing; Barbara Haig, director of NED programs; Bryan Atwood, president of the National Democratic Institute [Instituto Nacional Democrata—NDI], and Barry Feirstein. After arriving almost clandestinely in Nicaragua on 17 October, the NED officials met by chance with BARRICADA on 19 October at the Intercontinental Hotel and they grudgingly held a brief conversation with this newspaper.

The delegation is led by Haig and Atwood. As director of NED programs, Atwood is directly in charge of the supply of funds to the UNO. Atwood's presence is due to the fact that the NDI has designed Violeta Barrios' electoral campaign, and is one of the main channels through which the $5 million included in the U.S. Congressional allocation will reportedly reach the parties.

Visibly upset by the presence of BARRICADA, Haig said: "The U.S. Congress has just approved funds to help the electoral process, and before proceeding we wanted to undertake some consultations to learn the opinions of the various participants in the electoral process." Nevertheless, the NED officials have only met with UNO politicians.

The host of the "guests" from the NED in Managua was none other than Antonio Lacayo, the UNO's campaign chief, with whom the NED officials were seen traveling in a vehicle in eastern Managua on 19 October.

Haig also said: "We are also interested in seeing how the electoral process is developing." However, during their

4-day stay in the country they have not visited any offices of the Supreme Electoral Council [CSE] and they have not reported any meeting with CSE President Mariano Fiallos.

The NED officials made several attempts to evade BARRICADA reporters so they practically had to be "ambushed" by the reporters. Although Haig said the visit also had the objective of "seeing how we can best help," it is obvious that the furtive nature of the visit had the objective of studying with UNO politicians the best way to evade the Electoral Law, so as to provide the extreme rightwing the $5 million it has been allocated from the $9 million package approved by Congress.

Two officials of the U.S. Embassy in Managua were also at the hotel, and they held a separate meeting with Atwood. The Yankee diplomats made a hostile gesture when they saw the BARRICADA photographer, while Atwood excused himself from making statements, saying: "I still have to make many telephone calls." However, he did not explain to whom he would talk.

A source close to UNO said that in addition to the distribution of funds, the NED officials also came to Managua "to supervise Violeta Chamorro's electoral campaign," which was designed by the NED in meetings with Antonio Lacayo during his recent visit to Washington.

Shevardnadze's Visit Termed 'Historic'

PA2310192389 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Oct 89

[Commentary by Aldo Diaz Lacayo]

[Text] Eduard Shevardnadze's visit to Nicaragua was historic for more than one reason. Undoubtedly, the main reason is that Shevardnadze represented an official, open, and friendly Soviet Union's support for the Nicaraguan position at the Central American peace negotiating process. Although the USSR's support is not new, the public acknowledgement of its support here in Nicaragua and, more importantly, in Central America, was very important. This public support was given when the U.S. Government continued its pressures for the Tela agreements not to be kept and for new prohibitions to be negotiated in the Esquipulas II agreements.

Since the very beginning of the Central American peace negotiations, Nicaragua had presented the thesis that Central American security depended on maintaining a regional balance with a reasonable number of military forces in our countries. A regional balance requires each country to maintain the military organization needed to defend itself efficiently from the worst possible foreign aggression. In other words, the Nicaraguan proposal for a reasonable number of military forces, determined that our armies be exclusively of a defensive nature, and that their size be not larger than was necessary to defend a state confronted with the worse potential threat. The proposal was presented by Nicaragua in Contadora Island, Panama and was accepted jointly by all the Central American and Contadora Group foreign ministers. However, the U.S. Government managed to block the signing of the Contadora Act because it did not favor the proposed regional balance. Negotiations regarding subregional security matters have been paralyzed in Central America ever since that time. The Central American presidents did not reach a decision at Esquipulas II; they only noted that security related matters were to be negotiated with the Contadora Group's mediation. However, Contadora Group does not exist any longer. The U.S. Government killed it when it managed to get Panama to explode.

Thus, Shevardnadze's visit to Nicaragua opens the possibility for the Central American countries to continue to negotiate regional security on the grounds of maintaining a regional balance with each country maintaining a reasonable number of forces. The USSR support further ensures that the Central American presidents's decision on this matter will have maximum compliance. Shevardnadze stated in Nicaragua: We agree with our Nicaraguan friends that the five Central American countries must hold negotiations on all pending security matters. We share their opinion that a permanent negotiating mechanism should be created to discuss the countries' requirements regarding armed forces and weapons. Shevardnadze added that the USSR and the United States could aid the countries in the subregion, and that both powers could act as guarantors of subregional agreement in this respect. Furthermore, Shevardnadze offered the USSR's assistance in attaining a firm and lasting peace in Central America. That is why his visit to Nicaragua was a historical one. Everything will get better in the future.

Government, Costa Rica To Issue Courtesy Visas

PA2310215589 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Oct 89

[Text] Nicaragua and Costa Rica have agreed to grant courtesy visas to transporters and to draw up an instructions manual for the granting of consular visas to all Nicaraguans.

These agreements, as well as others concerning immigration and the fight against drug trafficking, were signed by Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge and Costa Rican Public Security Minister Hernan Garron Salazar.

Regarding the drug trade, the delegations from both countries agreed at the end of their working meeting to carry out a coordinated operation in Atlantic waters. Costa Rica promised to submit a procedure for the return of vessels and cattle illegally taken to Costa Rican territory.

The Nicaraguan side proposed that a special vicinity agreement be signed to facilitate and speed up movement and commercial activities of people living in border areas. The two delegations also agreed to urge the respective tourism institutes to make studies to promote tourism as a

means of strengthening friendship and cooperation between Costa Rican and Nicaraguan citizens.

CSE President Comments on Voter Registration

PA2410001289 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Remarks by Supreme Electoral Council President Mariano Fiallos during news conference held on 23 October; place not given—recorded]

[Text] According to our figures, the number of registered voters is 1,691,964. However, you will see that this is incomplete information, because we are still missing data from 445 Ballot-Receiving Boards [JRV]. We can project without exaggerating that the number of voters will be higher. We think that at the end we will have approximately 1,730,000 registered citizens. This figure represents 88 percent of the population, as based on data from the National Institute of Statistics and Census [INEC], or rather 88 percent of the eligible voters, because INEC estimated the number of eligible voters to be 1,960,000 [words indistinct]. So we have 1,960,000 eligible voters. At the end of the [words indistinct] 1,730,000 of them would have registered to vote. Again, this means 88 percent.

As you can see in the sheet we gave you, this projection [words indistinct]. You will also see there that in some regions like Managua all of the boards have sent in their results. Managua of course has better communications systems. We have received fewer results from the remote areas. [words indistinct] We want to say that the figure I gave of 1,730,000 is a projection based on our statistical data, and that 88 percent of eligible voters registered. We still do not have [words indistinct]. The 88 percent figure represents an estimate based on our projections and INEC computations.

Getting past that aspect and going into the area of appreciation for the Supreme Electoral Council and the officials engaged in this task, we feel that the registration period that ended yesterday was carried out in absolute normalcy. It represents a veritable success for the Nicaraguan people; for the Electoral Council, which is made up of approximately 60,000 persons who worked in this process the past 4 Sundays; and for the Nicaraguan political system in general, including the political parties and their representatives, who have been working with us. The representatives of the political parties are among the 60,000 persons who have worked these four Sundays.

The 88 percent registration figure is high anywhere in the world where the [words indistinct] registration system is used. We called on citizens to register. We can say that the problems reported these four Sundays are not statistically significant to discredit our figures. The incidents are insignificant in statistical terms. Therefore, we can unequivocally state the registration process was conducted normally and was a great success for Nicaragua and Nicaraguans.

More on Ortega Discussion of 'Contra' Attacks

PA2410000989 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2257 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 23 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra said today that the Nicaraguan Government is reviewing its military policy with an eye to putting an end to attacks by the contras, which have intensified over the past few days.

At the end of a meeting with Elliot Richardson, special envoy of the UN secretary general, Ortega said that he will act "firmly and vigorously" and that he will not tolerate new attacks like the one that occured on 21 October in the northern part of the country, where 15 Sandinist soldiers were killed and 9 others injured.

The Nicaraguan head of state said that the government is "studying the appropriate mechanisms to prevent these crimes against the people from continuing."

According to Ortega, the soldiers were killed as they were about to register to vote in the coming elections.

After the attack, Ortega called an emergency meeting of the top officers of the Army and the Interior Ministry to decide on measures to be adopted in view of the "increase in criminal actions" by the anti-Sandinists.

In an annoyed tone, Ortega said that the government will act "vigorously and firmly" to prevent the "mercenaries," who are supported by the United States, from continuing to wage war on the country, which has embarked upon an electoral process that will culminate in elections in February 1990.

Ortega said that the "contras are disregarding the unilateral cease-fire" decreed by the government since March 1988, when Sandinist and contra authorities signed an agreement in Sapoa (Nicaraguan town on the border with Costa Rica).

The Sandinist leader said that, in view of this, the government is also reconsidering the unilateral cease-fire, which expires on 31 October.

The Nicaraguan president said that the Sandinist Army seized explosives and weapons from the rebel groups, which, he said, "indicate that the attacks have intensified."

Ortega blamed the United States for the acts committed by the "mercenaries" (Nicaraguan Resistance) and demanded that the White House "state whether it is in favor of the electoral process or of the war."

The Sandinist leader asked President George Bush and the Nicaraguan opposition parties, as well as the rebel leaders who have accepted the amnesty offered by the Sandinist government, to make pronouncements about this "brutal crime" by the contras. He said that the United States maintains a dual position, because while on the one hand it is financing the opposition's electoral campaign, it continues to "promote the terrorist activities" of the rebels.

Ortega emphasized that whatever policy Washington adopts with regard to Nicaragua "will determine whether or not the Nicaraguan electoral process proceeds successfully."

Ortega said the fact that the United States does not support the demobilization of the contras, based in Honduras, and its insistence on supporting the armed groups, demonstrate a "conspiratorial attitude" against the Nicaraguan electoral process.

The president briefed Richardson, who arrived on Wednesday to observe the electoral process, on the attack committed by the rebels.

Government To Punish Activities

PA2310234889 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] The recent increase in contra activities has prompted the government to consider strong measures to face the escalation by groups paid by the United States. Although details of the measures to be given were not announced, the emergency meeting held by President Daniel Ortega with top ranking officers has led analysts to believe a package of drastic measures will be taken to militarily defend the country. A brief official communique on this meeting noted that contra activities will be punished harshly and to the full extent of the law. The meeting was held in the wake of an ambush against a group of Sandinist People's Army soldiers and reservists who were going home to register for the 25 February elections.

As a result of this action, 15 were killed and 9 were injured. The anti-Sandinist forces have intensified their attacks to hamper the progress of the elections. According to the Sandinist National Liberation Front, these attacks are coordinated by the right-wing Nationalist Opposition Union, UNO.

Paper Interviews Interior Minister Borge

PA2410004289 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 16 Oct 89 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge by unidentified reporter—date and place not given]

[Text] [Reporter] What has the role of the MINT [Interior Ministry] been in the strategic defeat of the counterrevolution, especially during clashes with the enemy intelligence?

[Borge] The Interior Ministry has a very specific role within the state structures, and it could not have performed these tasks alone, because the tasks of the state are both separate and complementary to each other. It can be said that the revolution has faced this historic enemy of Nicaragua, in other words U.S. imperialism, and the current enemy, that is the counterrevolution and the sectors supporting U.S. policy in Nicaragua. This has only been a battle because all of the aforementioned are servants of the same master. The MINT, along with the Sandinist People's Army, has been the vanguard during the clashes with the counterrevolutionary enemy.

The CIA has been the enemy's spearhead, the spearhead of an imperialist strategy which was intensified during the Reagan administration. The CIA still continues operating because it is an organization with some autonomy and because it does not want us to harbor excessive hopes. However, we must say that although there are various similarities between the current U.S. President and the Reagan government, the current U.S. President was once the director of the CIA. The CIA drafted a manual through which it intended to create internal destabilization, worsen the country's dramatic economic crisis—and they have accomplished this to some extent—and cause discontent among large sectors of the population. They have not been able to obtain this latter goal, although the crisis does exist.

It is obvious that the crisis was not generated just because the CIA wanted to cause it. The war is the bishop used by the CIA to try to put us in check, although there are other factors too, some generated by the international economic crisis and others because of some of our mistakes.

We are not immune to the problems of Latin America, as proven by the situation in Peru, Argentina, or Brazil, although the crisis in Nicaragua has been more severe than in those countries. Nevertheless, the repercussions have not been the same. The crisis in Nicaragua has been intentionally worsened by the enemy, and yet the results sought by the enemy have not taken place.

They planned this as others plan the perfect crime. However, they could not get social support for their political project. They even tried, unsuccessfully, to complement the economic crisis with sabotages and attacks. The fact that there has never been an attack in Nicaragua resulting from an organized internal action by the enemy makes Nicaragua an exception in the world of revolutionary processes.

[Reporter] What is the key to the MINT being able to successfully face and neutralize the actions of such a formidable enemy?

[Borge] I cannot give you an ultimate reply on that yet, as it is being analyzed as a historical phenomenon. No revolution in the world has been free of sabotage and terrorist actions or political murders. Even when there are no qualitative or relevant political changes this phenomenon is present. Therefore, the fact that there has not been a single attack in Nicaragua is historically significant.

One could say that this is due to the close links between the MINT and the people. However, we know that this is true of other revolutionary countries as well, which means that although the links with the people are an important factor, it is not the only one. I recall that in the first days of the Cuban revolution 200 bombs exploded

in Havana in just one night, on the day when Fidel Castro decided to create the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution.

Not a single bomb has exploded in Managua in 10 years. Another factor that has contributed to preventing that type of action has been the policy of infiltration of the enemy's ranks, which we have followed from the very moment the MINT was founded. I recall that when we met to organize the MINT we did not have any material or financial means. We did not even have our own building. And we had no experience either. Panamanian advisers, and also some Cuban advisers, were beginning to arrive in those days to help us organize our police. We believed that in view of our lack of material and human resources the best thing we could do was infiltrate the enemy's ranks. This idea has predominated the minds of our comrades to the extent that, in my opinion, it has been a determining factor in this phenomenon.

[Reporter] You said you began from zero. Could you not have used what was left of the former Somozist Government Ministry?
[Borge] Not even a typewriter was left. Well, we did receive something: a senior officer who nonchalantly waited for us at the Government Ministry office after our triumph. He had a long Somozist record at the time, and now he has a long record within the rightist parties. That was all we found. Furthermore, the Government Ministry was not an Interior Ministry or anything like that, because all its functions were totally controlled by the National Guard. What existed then was a useless bureaucratic apparatus which did not even have files. Its only role was to organize Somoza's birthday parties and formally replace Somoza when he traveled abroad.

[Reporter] How do you visualize the MINT 10 years later?
[Borge] There is a factor I did not mention before. The MINT initially consisted of a group of hard-working members who wanted to serve the people, and they have since then become real professionals of interior order and security. They have been creators and participants in this ministry and they have had many victories in facing the enemy.

We have a MINT that has developed amid poverty, with scarce material resources, and with badly paid personnel who work without any set schedule. They have been trained within the concept of public service, respect for human rights, strict adherence to juridical order, correct use of criticism and self-criticism, political vigilance within the ministry itself, love for the poor and for all the people, and courtesy, not only formal courtesy but one that comes from inside. Those are the values and sentiments we have taught our fighters.

We have received aid from enemies of Nicaragua [as published]. We have practiced the principle of pluralism in our relations. Most of the aid has come from the Soviet Union, the GDR, Cuba, Bulgaria, and Czechoslovakia, and to some extent, from Poland and Hungary. Generally speaking, this aid has been gratuitous, and thanks to it we have not only modern laboratories and technological means, but also personnel who have been trained in various scientific and technological disciplines to fight crime. At the beginning, we had aid from Panama and Mexico. Now we maintain good relations with the Spanish Interior Ministry, the Government Secretariat of Mexico, and others.

Our state security has reached a good technological level. We have founded a modern penitentiary system, which is more than modern; it is a profoundly humane system that has earned the world's recognition as being a highly advanced system because of its principles concerning the treatment prisoners must receive. Our Immigration Department is efficient and fast in providing public services.

In addition to the aid we have received in the form of resources and the training of cadres, we have also worked to make our Interior Ministry have its own trademark, which is why our ministry resembles other interior ministries but also has characteristics of its own that no other interior ministry of the world has: Ours is an Interior Ministry that only criminals fear.

[Reporter] But the rightist sectors call it "the Ministry of Terror"...
[Borge] This is a ministry that causes respect, because not even the rightist sectors can rouse terror. The rightists know the Interior Ministry is capable of taking strong actions when the situation requires that we do so. This has not occurred too many times, and the most serious incident we have had to date was the one in Nandaime. A relatively serious clash occurred there, and for the first time tear gas bombs were used and a few persons were injured.

The Interior Ministry, which some do call the Terror Ministry, has never tortured anyone or killed anybody except in criminal cases. Whoever studies us with an objective and impartial attitude, including the revolution's political-ideological enemies, knows that this is a respectful ministry. We have exercised our power with restraint, strength, and flexibility, although we are structured to repress criminals and those who make attempts against the country's security.

[Reporter] What do you believe the CIA thinks about the Interior Ministry?
[Borge] I believe the CIA has a deep respect for the manner in which the ministry managed to discover its activities in Nicaragua. The CIA does not underestimate us, nor do I think they overestimate us. I believe the CIA knows that the Nicaraguan Interior Ministry and its security organizations are enemies to be reckoned with.

[Reporter] And does the Interior Ministry have respect for the CIA?
[Borge] The CIA has been defeated in Nicaragua. The Interior Ministry has neutralized the CIA's basic plans. I cannot talk about respect for the CIA, because it is a criminal organization.

[Reporter] How would you evaluate the impact of the ministry's work to create a civic spirit in a population that was accustomed to brutal repression and that was antagonistic to work traditionally done by your type of institution?

[Borge] A citizen who meets a MINT guard at dawn today would try to get closer to him, while in the past that same citizen would have crossed over to the opposite sidewalk. This is the graphic difference—and it has not occurred by chance. The Interior Ministry has contacts and relations with thousands of citizens. All our organizations are linked to the fact that we are based on the people's support, and the voluntary police and revolutionary security programs are an example of this fact. The so-called police open town councils were not a product of chance. At these meetings, citizens in different neighborhoods and cities talk with courage and sincerity about errors and irregularities they have noted, and then present their requests and demands. It can also be noticed at these meetings that police representatives listen to the citizens' petitions and demands and attend to their comments about errors and irregularities.

[Reporter] Let us see what occurs in the opposite direction. How does the Interior Ministry see civil conduct? Are people more respectful of the law? And what has the ministry done to get people to be more respectful?

[Borge] Our work can be seen in the fact that delinquency rates have decreased in comparison to the rates during the Somozist era, although in the very recent past we have experienced an increase, compared to some years when the criminal rates were markedly low. We can also see that the police agents treat the population with much more respect, although due to the Nicaraguans' personality, this attitude is sometimes not reciprocated.

In other words, there are citizens who know the police does not use force and they do not always respect the police. However, I would say that Nicaraguan society as a whole has a deep respect for the Ministry of Interior. This is a two-way relationship: The people teach our organizations, and MINT teaches the people.

[Reporter] However, I feel that our people are more relaxed...

[Borge] Well, that has to do a little with the characteristics of the Nicaraguans. The Nicaraguans are the most hospitable people in the world. They are very fraternal people. They have formed a society in which family ties are very strong, but at the same time all of us Nicaraguans are a little rude. Then we demand that the policemen be courteous, but they are not always courteous enough although they have been educated to that effect.

Nicaraguans, for example, do not often greet each other. However, that same Nicaraguan who will not say hello to you or thank you with words for something will go ahead and offer his bedroom to you to sleep in, even though he does not say it in a courteous manner. This is the way we are.

This is why, despite our police force, there are sometimes incidents at parties, on the streets, and at public activities, especially if liquor is involved, that create tension among people who have no aversion toward the police or the revolution, but are bent on disobeying the law.

Also, I believe that laws have been disseminated, but not to the extent that they should be. Our country has a weak judicial apparatus. Although we have very valuable and capable people such as Supreme Court President Rodrigo Reyes, our judicial apparatus is still weak. We have not been able to establish a modern judicial system, much less one capable of administrating the law among the citizens. We have tried to do this at MINT, but we are confronting problems there also.

[Reporter] To what extent is the MINT's slogan of being the sentry of the people's happiness a realistic proposal?
[Borge] In historical and strategic terms, the MINT is the sentry of the people's happiness. It is an imperfect reality of the present and a future goal.

[Reporter] Are you satisfied with your 10 years as interior minister?
[Borge] I have been a political leader at the ministry. I have delegated functions to many officers. I have established an information network that serves the state and the revolutionary government's leadership, and that has been very useful for making political decisions. I believe that some comrades are probably better prepared than I am to direct a ministry as complex as this one. I also believe that if I have accomplished anything, it is to have assembled the efforts made by the great officers of the Interior Ministry.

Competent and beloved Interior Ministry officers have died. I remember Enrique Schmidt. He was probably one of the most capable cadres this country has ever had. He was extremely efficient, regardless of the post to which he was appointed. He was appointed Managua police chief and in a matter of weeks he transformed the institution. Later he was made commander of the Pablo Ubeda troops and he made their situation improve miraculously. When he headed the Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services, this institution became a state vanguard organization. Enrique Schmidt was the commander in a military action during which his troops performed a deed without precedent in this country. They faced a complete contra unit and eliminated it. The enemy had 70 casualties. Schmidt was an extraordinary comrade, but also a poor soldier: He stood up to fire his weapon. He was the commander and he should not have done that. He did it and became a perfect target. He was the only Sandinist casualty in that battle.

There is also the case of Walter Ferreti, alias Chombito. He was not only a capable cadre, but also a man with extraordinary charisma. He was our most popular cadre in the country. He became involved in the art world too, and successfully composed popular songs.

Marcos Somarriba, an extraordinary comrade and longstanding revolutionary cadre, died in a plane accident.

Felix Pedro Carrillo, a humble man who was admired for his simplicity, also died in an accident. He was practically illiterate when the revolution was won, but he quickly acquired knowledge and became an important Interior Ministry commander.

A legendary hero, Ezequiel, died in the early phase of the revolution, also in an accident. Another distinguished cadre, Sergio Mendoza, also died as the result of an accident.

Most of the commanders who have died, with the exception of Enrique Schmidt, died in accidents. A shocking amount of comrades have died in combat, in clashes with the enemy. They will be justly honored on 17 October during a ceremony in memory of Pedro Arauz and the Sandinist Front's October heroes, whose spirits live on in the Interior Ministry.

Panama

Noriega on Thwarted Coup, Trafficking Charges

PA2410001989 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2337 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Oct (EFE)— Panama's strongman, General Manuel Antonio Noriega, feels that "the U.S. policy of terror" against his country can turn against Washington, because "we have not harmed, kidnapped, or killed any American."

In an interview published today by the Mexican newspaper EL DIA, Noriega accused the United States "of internationalizing and legalizing terror by claiming for itself the right to make decisions on life and human rights for the sake of democracy."

He stressed that in the 3 October "military coup," the rebel officers were helped by "the U.S. Army Southern Command's 470th Intelligence Group and by groups of anti-Sandinists who are contra members. They were waiting for orders to invade my country from Costa Rica."

In addition, the Panamanian general rejected any involvement in drug-trafficking activities and mentioned that he has several medals from foreign governments he worked with in the struggle against drug trafficking.

In his opinion, the antidrug program being implemented in the United States now is the work "of the group that worked in the past, during the negotiation of the Torrijos - Carter treaties, to neutralize drug-trafficking activity."

Noriega added that Panama was the first country to extradite drug traffickers to their countries of origin and warned that "people who have been tried in the United States and who were delivered by Panamanian justice are precisely those who are now our critics and accusers."

Reactions To FBI Fugitive Seizure Authorization

PA2310174989

[Editorial Report] Panama media has carried various commentaries reacting to the U.S. Justice Department authorizing the FBI to apprehend fugitives facing charges in the United States outside U.S. territory.

Panama City Radio Tic Tac in Spanish at 1700 GMT on 18 October aired a 1-hour program in English conducted by former Democratic Revolutionary Party Legislator Rigoberto Paredes and Jose Drummond in which the subject was brought up.

Paredes referred to international dispatches reporting that "the CIA is asking for powers to assassinate presidents and leaders." He said: "It is suprising to hear this at this day and age."

Drummond added: "We are going back to the dark ages of cannibalism."

Paredes then said that "it is a sin if they ask for powers to kill within their own country, but it is a double sin if they are asking for power to kill outside their own country." He added: "Who are they? What power has been vested upon them that they can decide on the lives of others and use their own morals, morals that are immoral?"

Later, Paredes said: "CIA, please forget about this, the rest of the world is completely and forcefully rejecting the idea of authorization to kill national leaders and presidents, to kill whomever they want to kill, because they can always find an excuse." He added: "The United States is authorized by no law to decide upon the territories of other nations; we have our own laws, we have our own Constitution, we have our own idiosyncracies, and we have our own lives. Leave us alone! Take your hands off Panama!"

Drummond noted that many U.S. Senators are members of a third Nazi party and of the Ku Klux Klan, to which Paredes added: "You are hitting where it hurts. What you have just mentioned explains why the CIA is asking for the brutal powers to kill whomever they want abroad."

Paredes then stressed: "We must use the proper word for the proper meaning. Assassination is what they are talking about, and the first and main assassin is Bush himself, because he gives the orders, he has been announcing and ordering the assassination of General Noriega, and he has been failing in that enterprise; he will fail, because God is with us and God has been protecting Gen Noriega and this country."

Paredes noted that the Nazi Party and the Ku Kux Klan are gaining more and more power in the United States and have influence in Congress and in the White House, so the rest of the world must be alert. He added that if U.S. society permits these groups to take power, the whole humanity will be at risk. Therefore, he said: "This request for power to assassinate should not be looked at

as something unique or out of context; on the contrary, it could be part of a master plan."

Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish on 19 October on page 5 published Ricardo Lince's column "Let the People Judge," in which he said that Bush sends his allies on risky adventures, but abandons them when plans fail. He added that proof of this is that Christian Democratic Party Leader Arias Calderon publicly recriminated Reagan for not complying with his promise to kill Gen Noriega. According to Lince's column, further evidence is that Bush cleared the CIA director of any responsibility in the plan's failure.

Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish on 20 October on page 16 published Jorge Montalvan's column "Dotting the i's," in which he criticized the measure, saying that "the presidential - congressional decree is a licence to kill, or better yet, to hire someone to kill anyone they do not like." He warned that the threat is not only against Gen Noriega, but against anyone in the Panama Defense Forces, in the government, or in the PRD.

Panama City LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL in Spanish on 22 October on page 8-A published an article by Foreign Ministry Adviser Julio Yao entitled "The United States, Coups, and Political Murders." Yao stressed the illegality of the measure, stating that "it has no value outside the United States because it contradicts international law and would be against the sovereignty of states where it would be applied."

Yao said in his article: "By not having legal mechanisms to arrest anyone, FBI agents would in fact become terrorist agents, whose main obejctive would be to kidnap with the natural possibility of perpetrating a political murder. Therefore, the countries invaded by the FBI would have every right to treat them as criminals and receive them with gunfire."

He added: "The U.S. Justice Department's authorization seeks to replace the extradition treaties signed by the United States, annul foreign jurisdiction, and take justice in its own hands," particularly when there is no possibility of extradition. He then says: "It would be interesting to ask President Bush if the United States would permit Panamanian agents to kidnap opposition leaders exiled in the United States; if they would have allowed Corazon Aquino agents to kidnap Ferdinand Marcos in Hawaii; if [Colombian] President Barco would have allowed the DEA to kidnap the Medellin Cartel drug lords."

Yao's article goes on: "In addition to signing a blank check, or carte blanche, in favor of the FBI and the CIA to arrest, overthrow, or murder foreign heads of state, the U.S. Government has organized 'a new crisis committee' for Panama comprised of the deputy directors of the State and Defense Departments and the CIA with the intention of overthrowing the Panamanian Provisional Government and eliminating Gen Noriega."

He then notes: "The U.S. Government's public announcement—which it has made for the umpteenth time—that it will continue to destabilize Panama, seek to kidnap Gen Noriega, or participate in his assassination should be a matter of concern for the international community." He added: "It is really a threat to all countries that could become victims of a U.S. President's anger for seeking paths different from those designed by Washington."

He then said that the Group of Eight, Costa Rica, Venezuela, "should be horrified" by this measure against self-determination.

Yao concludes his article by saying that the OAS Inter-American Human Rights Commission, Spain, and all the countries that have regretted the "lack of democracy in Panama" should now "demand that President Bush to put an end to his piracy, attacks, genocide, and assassinations against Panama—the only cause for misery, division, and hatred among Panamanians—and stop being accomplices to the terrorism declared by the United States."

Commentary Calls Costa Rica's Arias 'Lackey'

PA2310181789 Panama City Television Service in Spanish 1530 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Commentary from the weekly Panama Defense Forces program "Everything for the Fatherland"]

[Text] Panama has contributed to many achievements. Sometimes, these go unnoticed or are unknown in the Central American region. There are some opportunistic and shrewd presidents who boast about their undeserved merits in a cynical, submissive, and ungrateful manner, for every tree is known by its own fruit.

Today, we recall the time when Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez visited Panama and asked General Manuel Antonio Noriega to convince Daniel Ortega, Nicaraguan president and leader, to attend the meeting where the Esquipulas II peace proposal was going to be discussed. Ortega had refused to attend the meeting, as he felt that meeting was biased in favor of the counterrevolutionaries because Oscar Arias was a mere figurehead of the U.S. government.

The commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, Manuel Antonio Noriega, convinced President Ortega to attend the regional meeting. Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo was promoting Esquipulas II, and he saw his role diminished due to the growing opportunistic attitude of one Oscar Arias, who gradually became the puppet of the imperialism that keeps the Central American region and Panama in a state of anxiety and unrest. Therefore, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize without deserving it.

The foreign policy of the current Costa Rican administration has not respected any principles, nor has it taken into consideration the cordial relations that Costa Rica

and Panama have always maintained. Orders emanating from the powerful northern nation [the United States] are evident in Costa Rica's foreign policy development. President Oscar Arias is being used as a lackey, and he is blindly following the orders of his boss. Arias has turned his country into a hostile one against a nation that is courageously fighting with dignity for its liberation, self-determination, and sovereignty.

The Oscar Arias Sanchez who, as a presidential candidate, came to Panama asking for economic assistance for his campaign—and by the way, he obtained the funds—is the same man who is now convoking many countries of the hemisphere to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Costa Rican democracy, yet he is ignoring Panama and other nations.

Panamanian Foreign Minister Leonardo Kam has said that unfortunately the invitations to that meeting have been issued in a discriminatory manner. Not all countries who have contributions to make have been invited to that meeting. On the contrary, this meeting seems to have become a factor of division between the countries who have been invited and the countries that have not been invited. Foreign Minister Kam added that Panama condemned the decision to exclude it from a hemispheric summit. Kam added that something that should have been a unified effort to solve the problems of the Americas is becoming a discriminatory event that seeks to divide nations.

Thus, the summit is far from its goals and is becoming an element of disruption. This would humiliate Panama if it originated from another president and not from a Nobel Peace Prize winner who supports economic, military, and psychological aggression against a country to which he owes respect and gratitude.

This fits in very well with that Biblical quote: For every tree is known by its own fruit.

PRD's Carlos Duque on Effects of New Measures

PA2210211189 Panama City LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL in Spanish 22 Oct 89 p 14-A

["This Week" column by Carlos Duque, president of the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD): "Economic Reactivation and Social Justice"]

[Text] The dramatic stalemate to which U.S. power has driven us does not admit superficialities and much less repetitive, unrealistic concepts.

When the 16 draft bills presented to the executive branch were published, some individuals who only read the headlines of each bill began spreading prejudiced, unfounded rumors suggesting a radical change of policy against private enterprise.

During his visit to Chiriqui Province, President Francisco Rodriguez Poveda clearly and plainly said his government "will respect the current economic model, a model that includes private enterprise." He described private enterprise as a system that "can help us overcome the current crisis." The president urged private enterprise to "be more committed to social justice because growth and development are senseless if they are not accompanied by better distribution of benefits and wealth."

Without using any rhetorical or demagogic language, the head of the executive branch said: "The government and the state are overburdened."

During the past few days, some businessmen have said they are aware that a collective emergency requires all sectors to try harder, because only work and confidence in the contry can change the situation.

ADIMACO [Association of Distributors of Construction Material] decided to lower its prices, taking the first step to reduce the prices of materials to promote the reactivation of 20,000 workers. A purchasing center with reduced tariffs would offer even greater prospects.

It would be inappropriate at this time to criticize and deny our experience and professional advice to industries that have developed through investments and professional expertise and have proven their capabilities through the performance of the companies operating under their leadership.

Adjusting the state apparatus according to the reality of the suffocating siege imposed by Reagan and Bush does not mean we must implement measures that work against investors or against men who have created highly profitable sources of employment for the past 20 years.

The Torrijist policy is characterized by social harmony among employers, workers, and government, within an environment of social justice that generates national wealth and guarantees the well-being of workers in both rural and urban areas. That is the principle on which the laws recommended to the executive branch by the PRD are based. They were conceived with a constructive spirit. The most serious mistake we could make would be decreeing a period of despoliation that would aggravate the crisis we have been confronting since 1986.

Meanwhile, following the aborted 3 October coup, Washington's political spheres of power do not seem to have recovered from the trauma resulting from that failure.

President Bush has tried by all means to reduce the odds against him. First, he denied his direct participation. Hours later, the explosion of criticism, protests, and accusations forced him to adopt his usual strategy: sharing the blame and promising to investigate the slips in order to assign blame.

Bush finally ordered the FBI to kidnap any person facing charges in U.S. courts who are outside U.S. territory, so they may be brought to trial. That measure implied that General Manuel Antonio Noriega could be taken by force to appear before the Miami grand jury.

Not satisfied with that absurdity, Bush accepted the excuses presented by CIA Director William Webster, who has said the prohibition decreed by former President Carter on any operation involving the risk of killing any foreign government leader and his spokesman, Marlin Fitzwater, announced that the U.S. Congress would be consulted to facilitate things and make sure that "next time, we will do better in Panama." [sentence as published] This clearly means Webster has a green light to carry out any action—including murder—in complying with the White House's decision to eliminate Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega from the Panama Defense Forces command.

Reagan applied against us measures reserved for countries that are at war with the Untied States, although Panama has never had a military conflict with that nation. Bush militarized a unilateral aggression. He unleashed a psychological war to intimidate the population and has definitely implemented criminal violence (state terrorism).

This is very significant, because Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez has made his second proposal to mediate in the Panamanian crisis on the basis of depersonalizing the crisis. This way of focusing the problem does not reflect the independent thinking of the Spanish people.

Felipe has proposed solutions that try to ignore the roots of the conflict: imperialist aggression. This is inconceivable. Felipe knows the Panamanian reality in depth.

Another unspeakable action resulting from the Yankee pressures is the Costa Rican summit. President Oscar Arias, who has proclaimed himself the new guardian of Latin American democracy, excluded Cuba, Chile, Haiti, and our country from that ceremonial event, which lacks any reformist meaning.

In reality, he did so to please the real host of the show, President Bush, who has finally agreed to meet with his enemy of many years, President Daniel Ortega. Going back to the repetitious path of absurdity, he will also meet with the magnificent troika of Endara, Arias Calderon, and Ford, and with Violeta Chamorro, in a new chapter of his artificial democratic criteria at the Latin American level.

While Bush excludes us from his summit, General Maxwell Thurman of the Southern Command orders the evacuation of all civilian personnel working in the canal area under his control. This is another step in preparation for war, which the participants in the San Jose summit have endorsed by succumbing to U.S. demands. It is not by chance that in the background of the ceremony, a mission of the World Bank concluded a visit to Costa Rica on 20 October to review new projects of economic aid for the battered Switzerland of Central America. No one doubts that to receive crumbs from Washington, it is necessary to comply with the requirement of joining the choir of isolation and persecution against Panama. However, other peoples have resisted blockades and have overcome imperialist attacks. We will, too.

See you next Sunday.

Banking Commission Investigates Frozen Accounts

PA2310190989 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2158 GMT 17 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 17 Oct (DPA)—Mario De Diego, the executive secretary of the National Banking Commission [CBN], said today that the CBN is carrying out an "investigation into the banks operating in Panama which have frozen deposits that belong to Panamanian government officials."

Early last September, the Bush administration banned U.S. companies from having commercial contacts with Panamanian Government officials close to President Francisco Rodriguez and General Manuel Antonio Noriega, which prompted some banks to freeze the bank accounts of an undetermined number of depositors.

De Diego said that an investigation is underway to determine the degree to which a measure of this nature may have violated the dispositions put forth by the CBN for the operation of the 110 banks established in Panama.

The official warned that if there is substantiated violation of the banking law, his office will take the necessary measures, and he pointed out that the affected can also resort to Panamanian justice to protect their legal rights.

Country To Seek Trade With CEMA Countries

PA2310144089 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Oct 89

[Text] Luis Barletta, director of the Panamanian Foreign Trade Institute [IPCE] said that Panama is trying to promote Panamanian nontraditional and manufactured articles in Cuba, the USSR and the CEMA countries.

Barletta said that those markets will help bolster the national economy.

[Begin Barletta recording] We are going to Cuba and different new areas to promote all our nontraditional products because, as we have said before, the traditional products do not need much promotion. All they need is continuation. However, we must begin promoting the nontraditional products, with which our country will have comparatively more possibilities of obtaining more jobs and foreign exchange—which is what is needed for our economic recovery.

[Reporter] What has been the result of efforts made in the Eastern European countries?
[Barletta] In the first place, we are taking all those treaties we had out of the closet and improving them. With these active and dynamic tools, we will streamline our trade relations with the USSR and all the CEMA countries.

Now are going to Cuba where the CEMA countries will participate in the meeting. We will not only take our farm-cattle production, but also manufactured products, small and medium handicrafts, cooperatives and large enterprises.

We hope to be able to learn and develop from this new market of the CEMA socialist countries.

233 Reportedly Executed After Coup Attempt

PA2410125689 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0511 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 24 Oct (ACAN - EFE)—The Panamanian Human Rights Committee (CPPDH) today stated that 233 officers and soldiers were executed by troops loyal to General Manuel Antonio Noriega after the 3 October failed coup attempt.

CPPDH President Dr Osvaldo Velasquez told a news conference in San Jose that 600 people, mainly military personnel, were arrested.

The CPPDH report contrasts with official reports which stated that there were only 11 dead and 36 arrests.

Velasquez said his organization cannot identify all those presumed to have been arrested or killed during the military uprising; he said the information was provided by medical personnel, witnesses, and relatives.

He added that 77 bodies were deposited at the Santo Tomas Hospital morgue, 40 "were buried in common graves" at the Cimarron military base, and 116 were taken "to various morgues."

"We also have information to indicate that the victims were tortured before being executed" by the troops loyal to Noriega, Velasquez said.

FDP Releases Alleged Coupist Col Ow Young

PA2410045889 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0435 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 23 Oct (EFE)—Relatives of Julio Ow Young, one of two colonels arrested after the foiled 3 October coup attempt against General Manuel Antonio Noriega, chief of the Panama Defense Forces (FDP), today reported that Ow Young was released.

A close relative of Ow Young confirmed the report to EFE and said that it seems that the military officer "is fine" but "is not interested in making any statements."

FDP sources would not confirm or deny the information.

Ow Young was the third in the military hierarchy of the FDP after Gen Noriega and was the "G-1" of the General Staff (in charge of operations).

The other colonel, Guillermo Wong, the fourth in the military hierarchy and chief of the FDP security services, who also appeared on the official list of arrested personnel, remains in prison.

The whereabouts of Lieutenant Colonel Armando Palacios, another high-ranking military prisoner, are unknown. However, unofficial sources reported that he has been freed.

According to the official report, the uprising against Gen Noriega resulted in 10 dead, 26 wounded, 5 "men at large," and 37 detainees, including Ow Young and Palacios.

The dead included Major Moises Giroldi, the rebel leader and commander of the "Urraca Battalion."

Health Workers Declare 'State of Emergency'

PA2410010989 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0038 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 23 Oct (DPA)—Health workers in Panama declared today that they are in a "state of emergency" because of the government's decision to dismiss three doctors and two nurses who worked for the Social Security Institute.

Dr Arrigo Guardia, leader of the National Medical Commission [Comision Medica Nacional], said that the health workers were dismissed on the basis of a "war" decree that imposes sanctions on workers for disloyalty to the state.

Guardia said that the application of the decree "violates the National Constitution," and announced that medical groups had given the government 48 hours to reinstate the dismissed workers.

The medical leader said that his group reserves the right to take whatever measures it deems necessary to have this problem solved.

Columnist Criticizes Felipe Gonzalez' Mediation

PA2010180089 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 20 Oct 89 p 4-A

["Let the People Judge" column by Ricardo Lince: "Panama's Head on the Auction Block"]

[Text] The 500th anniversary of the discovery of this continent by Spanish imperialists leads us to comment on the mediation Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez is unilaterally proposing in Washington to U.S. President and former CIA Director George Bush.

Felipe Gonzalez made this proposal seeking to pave the way for his visit to Washington. It is out of line with the policy followed by the Spanish people during recent years. That policy is extremely sensitive to the principle of sovereignty, which is the essence of the Spanish people's sense of nationality and dignity. These sentiments were bitterly forged at Gibraltar and during the American nations' struggle for independence. There is a

great similarity and many contacts between the American nations and Spain. Deviating from the Spanish people's concept of sovereignty, Little Felipe of Spain, using flanking tactics, is proposing an antihistoric mediation to Bush, President of an imperialist nation that humiliated Spain in Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, and the Philippines. He is making this proposal knowing beforehand that Bush has already said he rejects any form of rapprochement with Panama.

The Bush empire's greed in gobbling up its victims has led it to institutionalize murder, as the U.S. press has announced. Little Felipe of Spain's mission amounts to this: In the package of proposals he is taking to Washington, there is a proposal for mediation that would deliver Panama's head to Bush on a silver platter around Christmas time with the pomposity of one of the three kings. Little Felipe believes we are just a bunch of Indians.

Journalists' Association Releases Statement

PA2310144989 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 16 Oct 89 pp 1, 8

[Text] In a special general meeting held on 15 October, the National Journalists' Association suspended three articles of its statutes as a result of the irregular conditions in the country. The association thus overcame certain difficulties. Consequently, the elections for the new board of directors will be held normally on 29 October 1989.

The assembly backed the decision by the organization's electoral tribunal to accept new lists of candidates of up to 1700 on 27 October.

The special meeting also confirmed that those active members who pay up 50 percent of their dues and make arrangements to pay the rest will have the right to vote.

At the end of this special meeting, the National Journalists' Association released a statement asserting its "historic commitment to lead the struggle for sovereignty and national liberation."

The document also said: "In view of the U.S. Government's aggression, it is our duty to combat the disinformation expressed in a fierce, shameless campaign to discredit, destroy, and distort the nationalist objectives of the Panamanian people. Because of these actions against our sovereignty, we declare ourselves in a permanent session. We will be alert and determined to report the truth to our people and the rest of the world so the intent of the U.S. Government can be defeated, because such an intent is unjust, irresponsible, and deceitful."

Argentina

Armenian Group Occupies AEROFLOT Office

PY2310133489 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1320 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Oct (DYN)—Eleven members of the Argentine Armenian youth community this morning peacefully occupied the offices of the Soviet Airline AEROFLOT, in Barrio Norte District in the federal capital.

This measure of force took place at 1030 when the unarmed youths blocked the entrance doors to the building and stopped the AEROFLOT employees from carrying out their work.

The Armenian youths said that they are protesting the Soviet government policy regarding the Armenian people. They are demanding to talk with the Soviet ambassador to Argentina.

Youths Leave Offices

PY2310145289 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1423 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Oct (TELAM)—The Argentine Armenian Youth community members who this morning peacefully occupied the offices of the Soviet airline company AEROFLOT in Buenos Aires, left the place shortly after noon and went to the USSR Embassy to deliver a petition.

Shortly after 1130, Pablo Baeden [name as received], the second secretary of the USSR Embassy, arrived at the AEROFLOT offices at 816 Santa Fe Street but did not meet with the 11 Argentine-Armenians, although he displayed his credentials. The Armenian descendants are protesting the Soviet occupation of the Nagorno-Karabakh region since 1923.

The occupants of the airline offices remained quietly seated on the floor of the offices and asked Badaen to bring a written authorization from the Soviet Embassy. Shortly afterwards Hugo Kuyumdjian, 24, the spokesman of the group, told the journalists that the protesters were going to leave because the USSR ambassador was not going to come to the AEROFLOT offices.

Foreign Minister Sees 'Great Progress' in Talks

PY2310174689 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo has said that the Argentine-British agreement signed in Madrid represents great progress and voiced his hope that in the near future Argentina and Great Britain will talk about the Malvinas in concrete terms. Minister Cavallo added that the date has not yet been defined.

Minister Cavallo said that the sovereignty issue is under what is called an umbrella, but the ice has been broken. At the same time, Minister Cavallo said that if the islanders can be persuaded to have confidence in Argentina, talks about the future of the Malvinas will be more feasible.

The foreign minister said that had the negotitions not been initiated, talks on the future of the Malvinas would never have been even on the horizon.

Foreign Minister Cavallo will report to Congress next Wednesday to brief legislators on the implications of the agreement reached with Great Britain last week. Foreign Ministry sources said that Minister Cavallo will first brief the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate, and then the Chamber of Deputies.

Consulates Planned for London, Hong Kong

PY2410021289 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0039 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Oct (NA)—Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo has announced that the Argentine Government is preparing to open general consulates in London and Hong Hong as a starting point for the "practical" resumption of bilateral relations.

Cavallo made this comment in the government house press room in the company of Ambassador Lucio Garcia del Solar and other members of the team who negotiated in Madrid the resumption of consular relations with Great Britain.

The diplomatic team went to government house to give President Menem "details" on the progress of the negotiations with Great Britain which were interrupted after the war over the possession of the islands of the South Atlantic.

"What the negotiating commission did was very valuable" Cavallo told reporters who wanted more details on the meeting with the British diplomats in Spain.

Cavallo said there are two groups made up of representatives of the two countries who are "in the full process of dialogue and negotiation as it should be for two civilized nations which act in accordance with an environment of cooperation."

He said that cultural, scientific, and sports relations "are under study by the two commissions. He added that the resumption of flights by Aerolineas Argentinas and British Airways "can be made any time but this is also under study."

He also termed "very important" the fact that the British lifted the objections to the Argentine desire to establish a basic agreement for the exploitation of marine resources in the South Atlantic.

He reiterated that on 14 and 15 February 1990, the diplomats of the two countries will meet again in Madrid; however, he explained that from now on "the

contacts will be more often because the British are going to have a consulate general operating in Buenos Aires."

Menem To Stop Over in Managua, Meet Ortega

PY2410010489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2109 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Oct (EFE)—Argentine official sources reported today that Argentine President Carlos Menem will meet with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega in Managua on 27 October to discuss the electoral process in that Central American country.

Menem, who will attend the ceremonies to mark the 100th anniversary of democratic rule in Costa Rica, will make a technical stopover in the Nicaraguan capital.

Argentine Foreign Ministry sources have told the newspaper LA NACION that Menem's stopover in Managua has been confirmed "after the Sandinists promised not to take electoral advantage" of the Argentine chief of state's visit to Nicaragua.

Menem and Ortega met for the first time 3 months ago when the Nicaraguan president traveled to Buenos Aires to attend the inauguration of his Argentine counterpart.

President Calls for Businessmen's Cooperation

PY2210200689 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Oct 89 p 1, 13

[Text] Las Lenas—Some 300 businessmen yesterday committed themselves before President Carlos Menem to undertake a loyal effort of cooperation with his government following a four-day meeting at this ski resort which discussed subjects such as state reform, the financial system, insurance and investment markets.

Menem addressed the closing meeting of the 25th symposium of the Institute for the Development of Argentine Businessmen (IDEA) and told the delegates that his government would react harshly if prices increased above the levels authorized by the government and that the antihoarding law would be strictly applied to avoid noxious effects.

The President added that any wage increase over and above the guidelines set by the government for the October-March semester would give rise to a very difficult situation "such as occurred in 1975" during the presidency of Maria Estela Martinez de Peron.

He also warned that strikes and stoppages because of wage claims would not deter the government from carrying out its economic policy.

He later told a press conference that there was no agreement, pact or treaty with the Bunge & Born firm, adding that the opposition shown by Jorge Born to an overall application of the Added Value Tax (VAT) was just a question of dissent.

Replying to a question on whether wage demands by labour unions were a reflection of reality or a result of the internal situation within the labour movement, Menem said he was unable to answer but that the economic policies of the government would be inflexible.

"We intend to ask those who have to work on new wage agreement for reflexion," he said, adding, however, that all the government could ask was that its wage guidelines for the next semester be respected.

Asked what would be the government's attitude if any companies authorized price increases above those set by the government, Menem said "a series of measures can be taken to avoid noxious effects."

He said that personally he did not believe that the economic situaiton would affect the national economy, adding that "in any case the strikes and stoppages will not influence the government's policies."

He described as interesting the proposal by presidential adviser Alvaro Alsogaray for negotiating the foreign debt, adding that next week there would probably be a plenary meeting of the economic team to launch a programme of action that could be advantageous for Argentina.

Returning to the controversy with Jorge Born on the application of VAT, Menem said there had been "short circuits with many sectors of economic activity" and stressed that "one cannot have a true perspective when tax laws affect personal interests."

He said personal interests were also affected by the government's proposal of labour flexibility, especially with the labour unions.

Menem said there were more than four million Argentines unemployed and it would be a "selfish attitude not to allow them the alternative of living with dignity."

On the question of the Montoneros guerrillas, he said they would hand over the ransom sums they had received to charity organizations always provided the families of the victims were in agreement. He added that he was not aware whether they still possessed the arms used during their campaigns of the 1970's.

In his speech to the delegates, Menem called on them to co-operate with the state, beyond ideologies, sectorial interests and selfish temptations, adding that ignoring ethics was one of the main causes of the profound crises Argentina has suffered in recent decades.

He blasted the distribution of incomes, saying that while there were many wealthy people with their fortunes invested abroad, "there are many more poor people in our own country."

Urging the businessmen to increase production, he said Argentina also needed a "cultural revolution in our mental outlooks, in our habits and customs, and in reflexes acquired during many years of decadence."

Added Menem: "The essence of this comes from the recovery of the ethical sense in the lives of all social groups, be they political, labour unions, businessmen, cultural or sports."

The President said both politicians and businessmen should "socially revalue our respective tasks through the examples of our conducts."

Economy Minister Nestor Rapanelli, also present at the closing ceremony, said that if the economic stability achieved during Menem's 100 days of rule is not supported by other structural achievements, the current economic programme would suffer the same fate as the so-called Austral and Spring plans of the former government.

He said the main tools to back up stability was the state reform law and the proposed tax reforms.

Bolivia

Details on Paz Zamora-Perez Meeting 14 Oct

PY2410005889 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 15 Oct 89 p 7

[Text] Presidents Jaime Paz Zamora and Carlos Andres Perez held a 55-minute meeting 14 October in the Private Hall of the Bolivian Government Palace. During their meeting, they discussed political, economic, social, and cultural issues at the bilateral, regional, and international levels.

President Carlos Andres Perez, along with his entourage, arrived at the Government Palace at 1610. He was met by protocol personnel of the Foreign Ministry. He then went to the Red Hall where he was welcomed by President Jaime Paz Zamora. After posing for photographers and television cameramen, the two presidents went to the Private Hall of the Government House to talk.

During the meeting, the Bolivian and Venezuelan presidents assessed recent developments in their bilateral relations, and they reviewed the possibilities of strengthening in every field the historical and friendly ties linking the two nations.

Concerning the regional situation, the two presidents reviewed the developments of the democratic system in Latin America, the agreements reached by Central American presidents in their quest for a peaceful solution to the problems troubling their countries, the formulas to promote the regional integration processes such as the Cartagena Accord, SELA [Latin American Economic System] ALADI [Latin American Integration Association], and the results achieved in the Third Summit of the Permanent Mechanism of Consultation and Political Agreement.

Among the international issues, the two presidents reviewed the relationship between development and environmental protection, the policies of disarmament and removal of medium- and long-range nuclear weapons implemented by the superpowers, and the relationship between industrialized and underdeveloped nations.

The two presidents also assessed the economic deterioration experienced by the underdeveloped nations as a consequence of the heavy foreign debt burden and the foreign trade imbalance.

In conclusion, Transportation Ministry representatives presented mint sets of postage stamps commemorating the meeting between Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez and Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora. The meeting between the two presidents then ended.

'Text' of Joint Declaration

PY2310165489 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 19 Oct 89 p 5

[Text] President Alan Garcia of Peru and President Jaime Paz Zamora of Bolivia yesterday signed an 18-point [as published] joint declaration on board the ship "Ollanta"—which will henceforth be called "Mariscal Santa Cruz"—as their meeting ended.

The two presidents reiterated their will to promote bilateral integration and joint development of their territories through the following agreement:

1. The Peruvian Government grants Bolivia free zones in the ports of Matarani and Ilo in accordance with the offer made by the Peruvian Government in 1979.

To determine the site, size, and operation rules of said free zones, representatives from both countries will meet and submit a final report to their respective governments within 60 days.

2. The two presidents agree to form a binational enterprise of maritime transportation by merging the Peruvian Shipping Company and Bolivian Ship Lines.

3. Peruvian silver and lead concentrates will be processed at Bolivian metallurgical establishments, and a binational mineral marketing company will be created.

4. The presidents express their desire to promote the creation of a binational ministry for the complete development and management of the high plateau region that is shared by the two countries.

5. The two presidents agree to connect the Paraguay-Parana river waterway with the Los Libertadores interocean land corridor.

6. Both presidents ratify their conviction to promote bilateral trade within the Andean Integration Program, for which the Peruvian Government will offer facilities to encourage trade of Bolivian agricultural and agroindustrial products, using the La Paz-Matarani corridor for their transportation.

7. The presidents agree to review the rules for the movement of people across the border between the two countries.

8. In recognition of the two countries' common past, the Peruvian president decided that the ship "Ollanta" will henceforth be renamed "Gran Mariscal Andres de Santa Cruz."

9. The Bolivian president acknowledges with satisfaction the Peruvian president's offer for Bolivian Navy officers to participate in the upcoming Peruvian expedition to Antarctica.

10. The two presidents will request their foreign ministers to prepare a program that will make the joint presence of Peru and Bolivia effective in the Pacific Ocean basin.

11. They reiterate their political will, recently expressed at the trilateral consultation meeting at Ica with the president of Colombia, to establish guidelines for international cooperation in the fight against drug trafficking, taking into account differences among countries and respect for sovereignty of the states.

12. They express their support for the agreement on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, that was signed by the foreign ministers.

13. They instructed their foreign ministers to implement a technical and economic agreement for improving navigation and transportation on the Madre de Dios River and its tributaries.

14. They express satisfaction with the execution of the agreement to facilitate the movement of officials, vehicles, and equipment involved in binational integration projects.

15. They agree to promote Bolivian and bilateral investments for the development of Bolivian and binational tourist centers on the Tacna-Ilo coast, for which purpose the two governments will coordinate provisions for basic services.

16. The two presidents will request aviation authorities to study the possiblity of including more cities in both countries in the scheduled flights of their respective airlines.

17. The two presidents will instruct their foreign ministers to request cooperation from the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank] for the execution of the second stage of the Integration Support Program, and the Border Integration Support Program (PAIF) which has been approved by the two governments, seeking to promote the integration and development of border regions.

18. They recognize the need to improve the Bolivian road link to the Peruvian ports of Matarani and Ilo. To that end, financing will be requested from the IDB to complete the construction of the La Paz-Desaguadero-Ilo road and the construction of the Tiquina-Copacabana-Kasani segment which has tourist value. The two presidents also decided to commission studies for construction of the Guaqui-Puni railroad stretch to close the gap on the Matarani-La Paz railways.

19. They decided to give priority to the Project for the Development and Improvement of Health Services in Lakeside and Island Localities on and around Lake Titicaca with WHO/PHO [Pan-American Health Organization] cooperation, which was approved at the II Binational Technical Meeting.

Garcia Supports Maritime Cause

PY2010143089 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0021 GMT 20 Oct 89

[Text] La Paz, 20 Oct (EFE)—The Bolivian Government today acknowledged the support Peruvian President Alan Garcia has voiced over a possible solution to Bolivia's landlocked situation, even at the expense of land that belonged to Peru before 1879. Garcia offered his support to Bolivia during the meeting with President Jaime Paz Zamora on Wednesday, 18 October, on board the ship "Ollanta" on Lake Titicaca.

President Garica said: "Should Chile and Bolivia reach a bilateral agreement, we would voice our satisfaction and our agreement if consulted because this is a Latin American need."

Bolivian Minister Secretary General of the Presidency Gustavo Fernandez today stated that "President Alan Garcia's statement is highly significant in the handling of the Bolivian maritime problem."

Th Bolivian Government is preparing a new negotiation strategy toward Chile in an attempt to solve the landlocked situation according to Fernandez. He refused, however, to make any further comments on this new strategy.

The last attempt to solve this problem was made in April 1987 when Bolivia asked Chile to grant a "corridor" or the possibility of setting up "enclaves" that would allow an outlet to the sea in exchange for energy supply and the use of Bolivian rivers.

Two months later the Chilean Government termed the Bolivian proposal "unacceptable" because it entailed "yielding sovereign Chilean territory" to Bolivia.

Bolivia lost its outlet to the sea after being defeated, together with Peru, by the Chilean Armed Forces during the so-called "War of the Pacific" (1879-83).

On that occasion Peru lost Arica and Tacna, although Tacna was later recovered.

Peruvian Foreign Minister Larco Cox Arrives

PY2010125089 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Oct 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Guillermo Larco Cox today arrived in La Paz, where he will attend the Andean Council Meeting to prepare the agenda for the summit of the presidents of the Andean countries. The summit will be held in Ecuador in December 1989.

Larco Cox arrived at the Bolivian capital after having attended a meeting between Peruvian President Alan Garcia and Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora in which the two presidents discussed matters related to their recent meeting on Lake Titicaca.

Signs Agreements

PY2110032989 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Oct 89

[Text] After attending the meeting between Peruvian President Alan Garcia and Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora on Lake Titicaca, Peruvian Foreign Minister Guillermo Larco Cox is now in La Paz, Bolivia, to participate in the second special meeting of Andean Group foreign ministers. The meeting began in La Paz today and will conclude tomorrow.

Minister Larco Cox and Bolivian Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde have signed three important agreements. The first one concerns the transit of government officials between the two countries, the second is on economic and technical cooperation to improve navigation and transportation between Bolivia and Peru, and the third is an agreement on the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Gen Carvajal Sworn In as Police Commander

PY2110032089 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Oct 89

[Excerpt] The ceremony to swear in General Felipe Carvajal Badani as the new commander of the Bolivian police has just concluded. General Felipe Carvajal Badani, who is replacing General Mario Molina, was sworn in by President Jaime Paz Zamora during a ceremony attended by high-ranking police commanders, ministers, and members of Congress. [passage omitted]

Brazil

President Sarney To Visit Ecuador, Costa Rica

PY2310142889 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0815 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] President Jose Sarney on 25 Oct begins a 4-day trip to Ecuador and Costa Rica. In his message to Congress, President Sarney states that this trip to Ecuador will complete the round of visits made to neighboring countries with democratic regimes. In Quito, Ecuador's capital, President Sarney will finalize agreements related to cultural matters and the shipbuilding industry.

On 26 October, President Sarney will fly to Costa Rica, where he will participate in the summit called by President Oscar Arias of the chiefs of the OAS member states and the Presidents of the United States, Canada, Portugal, and Spain. The presidents will also participate in the commemoration of the centennial of democracy in Costa Rica.

Cuban Minister Meets With Businessmen

FL2110154089 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1214 GMT 21 Oct 89

[Text] Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas has met with the most important businessmen of the Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro and examined the possibilities of increasing trade between the two countries.

Cabrisas also met with the enterprise managers of state-owned Brazilian Petroleum and its marketing agency, Brazilian Petroleum International Trade, with whom he discussed future shipments to our country of machinery, foodstuffs, supplies, and general consumption goods. These goods will cover the cost and are in exchange for the 10 million Cuban anti-meningitis type b vaccines. This type of meningitis is affecting Sao Paulo and 14 other Brazilian cities.

The Cuban minister also examined the international sugar market and the cooperation of the two countries as members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean Sugar Exporting Countries with (Jose Enrique Torner), president of the Institute of Sugar and Alcohol.

Problems, Adjustments for AMX Fighter Noted

PY2210012489 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 Oct 89 p A-8

[By Roberto Lopez]

[Excerpts] The first AMX fighter bomber delivered to the FAB [Brazilian Air Force] yesterday will be operational in 1 year. FAB mechanics and pilots will have to take a special training course to operate this and 11 other aircraft to be supplied by EMBRAER [Brazilian Aeronautics Company] in 1990. (The FAB has ordered a total of 79 aircraft). [passage omitted]

The truth is that the problems that the pilots and mechanics will have in operating the AMX will be less than the problems many brigadiers of the FAB leadership will have in adapting to the aircraft. The AMX does not enjoy the FAB's unanimous approval; it is a jet-propelled aircraft designed for operations against land targets, and most officers trained for fighter planes would prefer a supersonic interceptor aircraft.

During the past few years some brigadiers have modified the original design to adapt the AMX for interception

operations. This is how they discovered that the AMX engines are not powerful enough for high-altitude flights, leading them to label it an "under-powered" aircraft. EMBRAER has already ordered more powerful engines, but all this "mending" costs a lot of money. Due to the various U.S. restrictions, the FAB's first AMX will fly with a radar that is inadequate for the different types of weapons it carries and with a weapons system that is inappropriate for an aircraft of its type.

Communist Party Candidate Addresses Issues

PY2110214089 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 Oct 89 p 6

[Excerpts] Brasilia—PCB [Brazilian Communist Party] candidate Deputy Roberto Freire on 18 October proposed that all parties involved in the electoral process unite to take emergency action against the economic crisis and to preserve the stability of the country until a new government is established. He advocated the creation of a "productive pact" for the country and a fiscal shock based on a new economic development project. In a speech that was considered historical by the PCB executive board, Freire advocated the renewal of socialism in order to emphasize its commitment to democracy. [passage omitted]

The following are some of Freire's major proposals: controls on the prices of basic goods, a freeze on school fees, an end to the financial disorder with the rescheduling of the internal debt, and the suspension of foreign debt payments. After stating that the candidates' public commitment to a pact will be supported by Congress, Freire expressed his willingness to reach agreement with all his adversaries. [passage omitted]

Freire outlined some aspects of his government program and emphasized the need for a deep reform of the state that would not involve nationalizing the economy. He said that such a policy would not be favorable for the country, and that it would be against the concept of "renewed Socialism," which rejects the nationalization theories of the past. [passage omitted]

Here are some excerpts of Freire's speech to Congress yesterday:

Hyperinflation

"I believe that the other candidates and I have a responsibility to take emergency action in order to mobilize society against the insanity following the chaos of hyperinflation.

Changes in the State

"A public state does not require the nationalization of the economy. The import substitution model has been totally exhausted, and this calls for a new system of financing that should combine public funds with foreign and local private savings (...)"

Social Pact

"It is necessary to implement a productive pact to serve the interests of the majority of the people. This should be the main objective of a government chosen in an election. It should be based on a fiscal shock."

Land Reform

"Land reform should aim at increasing production, promoting the technological development of farming, expropriating unproductive or large landholdings, and democratically solving the problems of landless people in order to bring peace to the countryside."

Messianic Left

"The messianism of the left ignores the complex and contradictory factors in the situation. It has a Manichaean and corporate opinion of the economy and of society, and it promotes cultural backwardness by preaching a populist doctrine of salvation of the fatherland through a great leader of the masses or through the party."

Chile

Union Leaders Bustos, Martinez Pardoned

PY2410011289 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Excerpts] President Augusto Pinochet has granted a presidential pardon to union leaders Manuel Bustos and Arturo Martinez who were banished to Parral and Chanaral.

The announcement was made by Presidential Secretary Andres Saiz. Saiz also read the letter President Pinochet received from Bishop (Orosindo Fuensalida), who requested the pardon on behalf of the union leaders. [passage omitted]

Union leader Manuel Bustos said this afternoon that the government decision to put an end to the unjust banishment affecting him and Arturo Martinez is a rational decision which Chile was expecting. He added that he is very happy because he will be able to get together with his friends again. He also noted that he is sad because he will leave the good friends he made in Parral. [passage omitted]

Communist Youth Favor Elections Over Arms

PY2210020389 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Oct 89

[Text] The Communist Youth organization has decided at its eighth congress to favor electoral methods over arms. Manuel Guzman, the new Communist Youth secretary general, has pointed out that although popular rebellion cannot be arbitrarily ruled out, in fact the electoral method has been chosen:

[Begin Guzman recording] We must be realistic and in cope with the basic problems according to our potential.

Today, the possibility of using the electoral method to achieve democracy, in the understanding that the electoral method is a very important component of democracy but not the only one...[changes thought] We will do whatever we can, we are doing whatever we can for this to succeed. If this means that we will have to fully engage in electoral activities, then we will do it. [end recording]

A total of 162 delegates from all over the country and a broad spectrum of guests from other opposition party youths participated in the Communist Youth Congress. The main task that the communist youths have assumed is to compromise to fully promote the candidacy of Patricio Aylwin. The youths also said that they recognized the urgent need to unify and promote democracy.

New Board, Policies Announced

PY2210022889 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 20 Oct 89

[Text] Manuel Guzman, the new secretary general of the Communist Youth of Chile, has said that this organization is undergoing a renewal process and has adopted a new way of dealing with politics. Guzman made these comments as he announced the new board for the Communist Youth of Chile. Deputy Secretary Edgardo Diaz, (Isolda Zamorano), leader of the metropolitan office of the Broad Party of the Socialist Left [PAIS], Guillermo Salinas, and Ivan Salinas accompanied Guzman during the news conference.

Guzman said that the Communist youth decided at its eighth congress to modify its political performance and to improve its relations with the youth in general. It also decided to broaden its actions to reach sectors related to ecology, women's rights, Christianity, and other interests. Guzman also said that the Communist youth will orient their efforts toward defending and strengthening democracy. Guzman said that the only way to confront overlooked social demands is to allow the people to effectively play a mayor role in the establishment of democracy in the country.

Asked how he would describe the Communist youth's relations with the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR], in which Communist youth members are said to take an active part, Guzman said:

[Begin recording] [Guzman] The eighth congress discussed our Communist youth policies, because it was a congress for communist youths. The congress defined the policies that the Communist youth will adopt and implement to contribute to the various aspects of our people's struggle and everyday life. The question you have just asked me can also be asked about the activities of Communist youths who are members of neighborhood councils or other organizations.

[Reporter] You assigned tasks to these youths. What tasks did you assign to the youths who (?are members) of the FPMR?

[Guzman] We have assigned tasks to all Communist youths.

[Reporters] [Questions indistinct]

[Guzman] Evidently. We do not segregate our members.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Guzman] It is clear that Communist youths can make personal choices. Some Communist youths may believe that their way of contributing to the defense and strengthening of democracy is to join the FPMR. If they believe that this is the way to contribute, they will remain the the FPMR files, but they will do it in light of the discussions held during the eight congress and the agreements reached there. [end recording]

Asked whether he believed that FPMR actions contributed to the democratization process being proposed by the opposition coalition, Guzman answered:

[Begin recording] [Guzman] We believe we must support any method the citizens choose to adopt to contribute to the establishment of democracy in the country. We will always be against those who do not contribute to this process.

[Reporter] What types of actions do you believe do not contribute to this process?

[Guzman] All actions that promote splits, that divide, and that fail to focus efforts and attention on the real characteristics of the dictatorship that we have endured or to emphasize the need to find a way of ending this dictatorship.

[Reporter] Does the existence of an armed branch of the Communist Party contribute to the reestablishment of democracy in Chile?

[Guzman] I believe this question must be directed at (?those who have been insistently resorting to armed struggles).

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Guzman] The Communist youth and the Communist Party have not insisted on resorting to an armed struggle. We have defined our policies very clearly, and they are aimed at dedicating all our efforts to the reestablishment of democracy. [end recording]

The Communist youth leaders admitted that, in order to maintain discipline, the Communist youths do not need to request permission from the board to join the FPMR, as Communist Youth Deputy Secretary Edgardo Diaz said. [sentence as heard]

Police Station Attacked by Unidentified Group

PY2310181489 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Excerpt] A police officer was injured during an attack on the 7th Police Precinct, at 875 Ramon Freire Street, Maipu District. The attack was carried out by a group of unidentified individuals.

Juan Diaz Jara, Carabineros Public Relations chief, officially reported that the individuals carried out a surprise attack on the police station from a passing car. They used automatic rifles, apparently M-16's and, as the police tried to repel them, the attackers hurled two bombs onto the roof of the police station.

The explosions damaged the hearing of and caused slight injuries to a detective who was taking cover nearby. The detective, Mario Zelada Aranguis, was taken to the Carabineros Hospital from where he will be released today. [passage omitted]

Colombia

Suspects Named in 16 Oct Newspaper Bombing

PA2310232289 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Oct 89

[Text] Bucaramanga—A 20-page issue of the newspaper VANGUARDIA LIBERAL, whose offices were the scene of a large explosion yesterday that half destroyed them, was published today in this city, the capital of Santander Department. From the first page to the last, the paper gives a detailed report of the events. With many pictures, the paper shows the true magnitude of the explosion of the car bomb. According to the paper's owners, the explosion destroyed 80 percent of their facilities. VANGUARDIA LIBERAL was published today because the press and the computer system were only slightly damaged and were repaired yesterday.

The newspaper's director, Alejandro Galvy Ramirez, in a front-page interview under the headline "Mourning and Destruction," said the newspaper will continue to publish reports, criticism, and opinions and that these are its only weapons. The editorial says the paper will continue to be published despite all attacks, just as it has been doing for the past 70 years.

On the last page, which is devoted to judicial matters, VANGUARDIA LIBERAL today said the perpetrators of the dynamite attack were former Navy Lieutenant Carlos Augusto Amaya Jaimes and Carlos Rios Carmona, whose names reportedly were given to the paper editors by the police last night. After publishing the names, VANGUARDIA LIBERAL says that, according to a police officer, these men are linked to drug traffickers.

Amaya and Rios have been charged with carrying out the dynamite attack against the paper. The explosion killed three people and caused damage estimated in the millions [currency not specified]. The paper published the photographs of the terrorists and reported they used plastic explosives. The paper said that the attack was motivated by revenge.

Drug Lords Seek 'Dialogue for Peace' Commission

PA2310223589 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2127 GMT 23 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota, 23 Oct (EFE)—The group of "extraditables" in Colombia, believed to be the armed branch of the Medellin Cartel, said today that it is prepared to declare a truce if the Congress of the Republic forms a "grand commission on a dialogue for peace."

The traffickers of the Medellin Cartel, who along with the members of the Cali Cartel form the most important cocaine processing and distribution organizations in the world, made their proposal in a letter addressed to Luis Guillermo Giraldo, president of the Colombian Congress.

The "extraditables" say that the dialogue commission must include, among other people, Cardinals Mario Revollo y Bravo and Alfonso Lopez Trujillo, Medellin Mayor Juan Gomez Martinez, former Minister Joaquin Vallejo Arbalaez, former Attorney General Carlos Jimenez Gomez, and former parliamentarian Guido Parra Montoya. The "grand commission" must also include "representatives of leftist mass organizations and the self-defense groups, and should seek a truce between the right wing and the left wing," according to the letter.

The drug kingpins said that they "agree that the topic of extradition should not be included in the referendum," because "we do not have the capability of mobilizing the masses in the struggle concerning the turnover of citizens."

In the letter, the armed branch of the Medellin Cartel lists four points that it believes could restore public order in Colombia.

Three of the points deal with nonextradition, and the fourth calls for the lifting of the state of siege, because it was under the powers granted in a state of emergency issued on 18 August that President Virgilio Barco's administration applied a number of measures to combat the drug trafficking.

On that occasion, when presidential hopeful Luis Carlos Galan was assassinated, Barco declared an "all-out war" on the drug mafias, reinstated extradition by administrative channels without prior judicial proceedings, and announced the confiscation of the drug traffickers' property. In a declaration issued 6 days later, the "extraditables" announced a "counteroffensive" against the government, the judges, the press, and the "representatives of the bourgeoisie" in reprisal for the official actions.

At the end of the letter issued today, the drug traffickers urged the public to "reflect," and added: "We all want to end the drug trafficking."

"The government," they said, "wants to end it through actions of war, while we offer to end it through a dialogue

for peace." The letter ends with the question: "Who is right?"

'Extraditables' Letter

PA2410010589 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] In a letter addressed to Congress President Luis Guillermo Giraldo, the extraditables suggested that the commission be made up of Cardinals Mario Revollo y Bravo and Alfonso Lopez Trujillo, former Minister Javier Vallejo Arbelaez, Medellin Mayor Juan Gomez Martinez, former legislator Guido Parra, and former Attorney General Carlos Jimenez Gomez.

The extraditables added that representatives of the armed and political branches of the left, as well as of the self-defense groups, should attend the talks.

This new letter by the extraditables released in Bogota and Medellin today also contained a proposal for the referendum. They agree with the government in the sense that extradition should not be included in the plebiscite, but add that the people should be consulted whether they agree with the peace dialogue proposed by the drug traffickers.

According to the extraditables, forming the grand commission, respecting the Supreme Court ruling regarding the nonextradition of Colombian nationals, and lifting the state of siege would guarantee that they would suspend their warlike activities.

In conclusion, the extraditables paradoxically said that, just like all Colombians, they also want to put an end to drug trafficking.

So far, there are no reports of any reaction from Senate President Luis Guillermo Giraldo Hurtado, while Medellin Mayor Gomez Martinez agreed to be a member of this commission.

Corporal Who Helped Extraditable Escape Arrested

PA2410020189 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] This morning the departmental police captured 1st Corporal Carlos Carrillo Martinez, who was an accomplice in the escape of extraditable Carlos Gomez Zapata from a hospital in Barranquilla 8 days ago.

With his hair dyed and wearing casual clothes, Carrillo Martinez was found peacefully walking in the city's downtown sector. He was captured between 1000 and 1030 in the vicinity of the municipal registrar's office, where he was making arrangements to get new identity papers.

The corporal was held at the SIJIN [expansion unknown] for 5 hours under intense questioning, and it was announced that the media would be allowed access to Carrillo at 1400. Since his capture the authorities have remained silent about 1st Corporal Carrillo.

The 2d Army Brigade said that the corporal had been located by the intelligence network several days ago. At the time of his arrest he had over 200,000 pesos in 5,000-peso bills in his possession. It is believed that Gomez Zapata paid him 40 million pesos to help him escape.

Paraguay

Special Colorado Party Convention Demanded

PY2310184189 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 23 Oct 89 p 3

[Text] The Colorado Party precincts released a proclamation during a meeting in the town of Coronel Oviedo, pointing out the pressing need for an extraordinary party convention, in keeping with the powers that the party statutes grant to rank-and-file organizations.

The document says that the party statutes must be amended in order to promote social and political participation, and that the amendment should enforce the appropriate criteria of representativity for the designation of party organ members, and for the designation of authentic leaders from rural sectors and from Asuncion as party executive board members.

The proclamation says that party precincts cannot be sidelined or forgotten at the time of making major decisions in which the destiny of the country is at stake. Consequently, party precincts demand decisionmaking power and the right to be heard, rejecting—with democratic respect—the pacts and accords that were closed behind their backs.

The proclamation criticizes both Colorado Party members who attempt to eliminate party precincts or to reduce their authority and autonomy through the law on slogans, and the congressmen who voted against the party excutive board. This attitude has been regarded as disobedience or betrayal of the rank-and-file who voted for the party deputies.

The proclamation condemns those sectors who attempt to legalize party factions, noting that such divisionist attitudes and wishes are easy to see.

The communique states that the presidents of the precincts of the traditionalist sector are not against dissent, provided it helps to unveil the unknown, to correct mistakes, and to establish valuable objectives.

Request for a Convention

The document asks the following from the party executive board:

1) To call for a special party convention to let the people decide on the future of the Colorado Party and to uphold the proclamation of 2 and 3 February, which advocates the unity and greatness of the Colorado Party.

2) The agenda of the special convention should include the following central topics: a) The modification, amendment, and update of party statutes; b) The replacement of party authorities.

3) We disagree with those who claim that "there are no reasons for calling for a convention," and we maintain that the people should freely and democratically choose their authorities, without pacts or arrogant personal attitudes which harm the majesty of justice.

The proclamation concludes by stating that Paraguay, democracy, the civilians, the Armed Forces, and the people are looking at us and want answers because they have confidence in us. Let us negotiate and let us build the future of our party and of the country.

Not all party precincts supported the decision to call for a special convention. Of 242 precincts, 201 voted for the special convention. Herewith the number of precincts, by department, whose representatives endorsed the decision:

Concepcion-6; San Pedro-16; Las Cordilleras-19; Guair-13; Caaguazu-15; Caazapa-9;Itapua-28; Misiones-9; Paraguari-14; Alto Parana-11; Central-18; Neembucu-16; Amambay-3; Canindeyu-7; Alto Paraguay-11; Bajo Chaco-6.

The Villarrica and Encarnacion precincts did not support the request.

Despite these figures, the final position of many precincts could change during the convention.

Rodriguez Comments on Colorado Party 'Crisis'

PY2310205489 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 23 Oct 89 p 5

[By special correspondents on board presidential plane en route from Salta to Asuncion 22 October]

[Text] President Andres Rodrigues said: "I want you to bear in mind that we are in democracy. There is no doubt that there can be disagreements, but then you will see that those disagreements will be overcome."

The president made this remark when asked about the crisis within the Colorado Party (ANR). Asked whether it will be necessary for the ANR to hold a special convention, Rodriguez said: "I could not say whether it should take place or not, because I would not like to interfere in this. I am sure that if a convention is called, and I hope it is, it may help reconcile the spirit of the great Colorado Party to reach much longed for democracy whithin the ANR."

"I believe that this goal will be accomplished so that the Colorado Party can meet its objectives in democracy and so that its leaders can be elected by Colorado people. We will therefore continue to advocate one of the points of the 2-3 February proclamation which states that the great Colorado Party should remain completely united. Anything else would be unfortunate because unity will have a positive influence on the national life."

He said: "I believe that all ANR internal factions will unite and that good will will be confirmed if the leaders of the ANR executive board are elected by the people. This will be possible if the rules are amended."

He added: "I believe that through the direct vote of the Colorado people, the new leaders will achieve the integration of the ANR executive board and that of the grass roots. This will allow proportional representation which is fair. Thus, any faction which disagrees will benefit from the results of the election within each party organization," he concluded.

To Stay Out of 'Party Affairs'

PY2310221089 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 23 Oct 89 p 9

[Excerpts] Under the current crisis of the Colorado Party, the various dissident groups invoke the name of the president (as during the Stroessner regime) in propounding their ideas whether they are democratic or not. However, explaining his position regarding this crisis, President Andres Rodriguez said: "I would not like to get involved on how to lead the party. This is the job of party President Juan Ramon Chaves. He is the one who must solve the party's problems."

Rodriguez also said that since he is impartial he does not have to give either "the green or red light" for holding a special Colorado Party convention as indicated by spokesmen of a sector of that party—especifically, the so-called "orthodox traditionalists."

Asked about the current Colorado Party crisis, Rodriguez said that just as men can disagree in their daily lives, disagreements can also exist in the party. He added: "But there will be a happy ending. Regarding the call for a special convention, let me reiterate that I cannot say whether it should be held or not because I do not want to interfere in any way in the party affairs." [passage omitted]

Rodriguez emphasized that Colorado Party unity should be based on the integration of all the party's internal movements without any exclusions. [passage omitted]

Industry Minister Returns From Taiwan Trip

PY2110154689 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 20 Oct 89 p 16

[Excerpt] Industry and Commerce Minister Antonio Zuccolillo returned from Taiwan where he went to negotiate a $50-million credit to boost the Central Bank's capital and to finance agricultural programs. The Paraguayan mission, that also included Ubaldo Scavone, industry and commerce under secretary, participated in several meetings with Taiwanese authorities to discuss economic issues of mutual interest. [passage omitted]

Peru

Observers to Nicaraguan Elections Appointed

PY2110190289 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0530 GMT 21 Oct 89

[Text] Lima, 20 Oct (EFE)—Two Peruvian experts will go to Managua on 21 October to join the commission of